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GORBACHEV SENDS MESSAGE TO HIROSHIMA MAYOR

LD160506 Moscow TASS in English 0341 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 16 TASS -- Follows the full text of the message sent by Mikhail Gorbachev to Takeshi Araki, the mayor of the city of Hiroshima:

Esteemed Mr. Araki,
I have read with great attention your message stressing the pressing need for progress in the effort to put an end to nuclear tests and achieve nuclear disarmament. Concern for the destinies of the world expressed in it is close and understandable to Soviet people. I believe that it is consonant also with the wishes of all honest people on earth demanding that a repetition of the Hiroshima tragedy on a global scale be prevented.

The Soviet Union believes that as long as nuclear weapons remain on earth there exists the threat of nuclear war and destruction of humankind in it. Therefore we are not for just talking that disarmament is desirable, but for accomplishing that desire of the peoples. The aim of our disarmament programme is well known. It is to eliminate by the beginning of the 21st century all nuclear and other mass destruction weapons. As Reykjavik showed, we are prepared for sensible mutually acceptable compromises. I can assure you that the USSR will cover its half of the way towards disarmament honestly, without wishing to ensure for itself any superiority or advantages. I think, you will agree, that we have the right to expect the same approach from the other side too.

Your letter contains a call for further extending the unilateral Soviet moratorium on nuclear tests. This is quite an understandable wish to us, reflecting the hopes and aspirations of the inhabitants of Hiroshima, of all Japanese, to whose lot it fell to be the first victims of deadly atomic weapons. In common with you we would wish that the moratorium would be permanently in effect, that all the nuclear powers would join in it. Herein was and remains one of the aims of our initiative. We remain committed to the idea of a general moratorium now too. Even in the event of a forced resumption of nuclear explosions, the USSR is prepared to re-introduce the moratorium, if the same decision is taken by the U.S. side.

We are firmly convinced that putting an end to nuclear explosions is the simplest way towards curtailing the arms race. It totally depends on the USA whether that way is cleared and unblocked. It is high time for everybody to draw the firm conclusion that the from positions of nuclear strength policy, the policy of nuclear blackmail is completely outdated. In this age security can be only universal. Today all countries and peoples should learn the great science of peaceful coexistence and mutually beneficial cooperation. The Soviet Union is seeking for itself the same security, which it is ready to recognize the the United States, for other countries. including for Japan.

Japan, a state, which, in our view, has a special right to be among the front ranks of fighters for a nuclear-free world, could say its weighty word for putting an end to nuclear tests, for transition to real disarmament. As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, the fight for a total ban and elimination of nuclear weapons is the very essence of our policy, and we are ready for constructive international cooperation in the name of this lofty goal. We are confident that the interests of the Soviet and Japanese peoples as well as of other peoples on earth in the effort to remove the nuclear threat cannot but coincide.

Yours sincerely
M. Gorbachev
January 14, 1987

Mayor Replies to Message

LD160910 Moscow TASS in English 0841 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Hiroshima January 16 TASS -- Mikhail Gorbachev's reply to Hiroshima Mayor Takeshi Araki, who last December sent a letter to the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, was conveyed to the addressee here today.

Araki in his letter, with identical messages sent also to the leaders of the United States, Britain and France, spoke highly of the Soviet Union's introduction of a unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions 18 months ago and urged the other nuclear powers to follow suit in the name of halting the arms race.

After receiving the Soviet leader's return message, the Hiroshima mayor said:

"We are sincerely grateful to Mikhail Gorbachev for his unwavering commitment to the cause of nuclear disarmament and stronger general security.

"We in Hiroshima realize especially acutely what a nuclear catastrophe can lead to. This is why the city's people have welcomed wholeheartedly the Soviet-proposed program for scrapping all nuclear weapons by century's end.

"The Soviet moratorium on nuclear explosions has become a real contribution to its implementation."

"Regrettably," Araki added, "we have not received replies from the leaders of the other nuclear powers." He expressed deep concern about the U.S. Administration's intent to press on with its nuclear testing and about its plans to stage another nuclear blast next month.

After the ceremony at which he handed Mikhail Gorbachev's reply message to Araki the Soviet ambassador to Japan, N.N. Solovev, placed a floral garland at the foot of the monument to the victims of the American atomic bombing of Hiroshima. It contains rolls with the names of the 143,590 people who were killed in August 1945 and died later from the effects of the atomic explosion.

Speaking in a TASS interview, Sakae Ito, co-chairperson of the Japanese Council of Organizations of Atomic Bombing victims, said:

"The Soviet Union keeps making stubborn efforts towards disarmament in spite of the U.S. refusal to follow its lead.

"The Reagan administration is reluctant to give any thought to the fate of mankind, to how to save this planet from destruction.

"The United States has continued its nuclear testing and kept ignoring Soviet proposals.

"The USSR has observed its unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing for 18 months now, but we understand that there is a limit to any patience.

"Washington must realize, at long last, that the whole planet is waiting to see the implementation of the Soviet program for destroying all nuclear weapons by the end of the century."

VORONTSOV MEETS KAMPELMAN IN GENEVA

AU151315 Paris AFP in English 1307 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Geneva, Jan 15 (AFP) -- Max Kampelman and Yuliy Vorontsov, the leaders of the U.S. and Soviet delegations at arms talks here, on Thursday dispensed with the planned first full session of the seventh round in favour of lunch together.

Mr. Vorontsov, who asked for the meeting, greeted Mr. Kampelman warmly. U.S. spokesman Terry Schroeder said Mr. Kampelman replied: "Good food."

Mr. Vorontsov, meeting Mr. Kampelman for the first time since his nomination as Soviet delegation leader last week, smiled and repeatedly shook Mr. Kampelman's hand for the benefit of photographers. He said: "Wait for the end and we will be hugging each other."

Mr. Schroeder said he could not say when the full delegations would meet. The Soviet side was to hold a press conference.

LEVIN COMMENTARY ON POSSIBLE PROGRESS IN ARMS TALKS

LD151239 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0350 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Viktor Levin commentary]

[Text] The next round -- the seventh -- of Soviet-American negotiations on nuclear and space weapons -- abbreviated as NSW -- opens in Geneva today. What does the Soviet Union expect of this round? Over to our commentator Viktor Levin:

[Levin] The plane which was to deliver the Soviet delegation to Geneva could not land there -- snow drifts covered the runway. They had to land in Zurich and make their way by train. That small incident did not prevent the Soviet delegation from arriving at the place of the negotiations in good time -- they had time to spare. In principle we are ready for the unexpected. We would like very much if such surprises related to weather rather than the zigzags of American policies.

So far the Geneva negotiations have not come up to expectations. It had seemed that after Reykjavik things should decidedly gone well, but the American delegation, insteand of basing itself on the foundation of the Reykjavik accords, set a course for revising these, for moving away from them. The sixth round of the negotiations, of which much was expected, ended in nothing. Nor did the interim meeting in December bring any results. Another blind alley, just as prior to the Soviet-American summit meeting in the Icelandic capital? The Soviet Union is not losing hope. We are optimists and I think even in the incidental fact that the new round of negotiations begins precisely on 15 January, on the anniversary of the statement by Comrade Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, on proposal for total elimination of nuclear weapons by the end of the present century, even in this coincidence one can see a good omen. After all, the statement of 15 January last year is the essence of our country's foreign-policy aspirations. It is a concrete and realistic proposal -- and after Reykjavik this can be said with confidence -- for eliminating the threat of nuclear catastrophe. That is what is being discussed, or more precisely -- what should be discussed, at the Geneva negotiations.

Now the Soviet Union is striving to make the new round a turning point in the business of solving the set problems and to give a new stimulus to the negotiations. In particular, to this end we have proposed to the American side to raise the status of the leadership of the delegations. What this means requires no explanation. That the United States responded to our proposal inspires certain hope. The head of the American delegation has been raised to the status of the President's personal respresentative and department of state counsellor. Our delegation is now led by a first deputy foreign affairs minister. The main things depend, of course, on the baggage with which the delegations begin the negotiations. We want to go along the path of implementing the accords reached in Reykjavik. If the American delegation returns to what had been agreed between the CPSU Central Committee general secretary and the President of the United States, that is if it takes the position of the head of its own state, and overcomes the obstructions created in the United States after Reykjavik -- and these are much more serious than heavy snowfalls in Geneva -- if it does that, I think success could be achieved.

GERASIMOV ON OBSTACLES TO DISARMAMENT

LD160004 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 15 Jan 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast; Video talk by Gennadiy Gerasimov]

[Text] Hello comrades! A year ago Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev made a statement. Now 15 January is already a historical date -- the date of the birth of hope for mankind of ridding itself of nuclear weapons. Today foreign journalists in Moscow asked again, several times: Is anything else expected? After 15 January there has already been a great deal of anything else. There was the meeting with the U.S. President in Reykjavik, there was the Delhi declaration on the principles of a nuclear-free and nonviolent world, and there were other initiatives: Soviet ones, and those with the Warsaw Pact countries. Now, the first anniversary of the statement has given people of goodwill in many countries the opportunity to speak once again in support of the Soviet plan for ridding humanity of the nuclear threat.

True, many say -- and maybe they are not even being disingenuous, but sincere -- nuclear weapons will be with us always. Can one disinvent what has already been invented, and force the nuclear genie back into the bottle? Yes, the idea of such, of eliminating nuclear weapons is good, but it isn't realistic. Here, for example, former U.S. Defense Secretary Robert McNamara welcomes, as he puts it, Gorbachev's outlook. McNamara goes on to say this perspective, of course, is desireable, but is not realistic, because there are obstacles: the lack of trust and the possibility of deception. Of course, at the moment there is a lack of trust, but after all, if we begin a process of disarmament, the lack will certainly decrease, while trust will grow. With regard to the problem of monitoring [kontrol], is it more complex than, let's say, the creation [sozdaniye] of a nuclear-triggered X-ray laser? It is natural if those responses and talents which are now creating [sozdayut] this laser were to be turned towards monitoring [kontrol], then the problem would be solved. Regarding the fact that weapons cannot be disinvented, here one needs to find one's position.

Nuclear weapons are no longer weapons, they are means of suicide. In the far-removed days of Hiroshima, it is possible they may have played a military role, but now nuclear weapons are not weapons, but a highly-productive universal crematorium. Nuclear weapons are the latest epidemic, against which the whole world should speak out, like against the plague, smallpox, and other forms of wholesale death.

Political thinking here lags behind everyday events, and one should hurry to synchronize them. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's statement, made a year ago, indeed synchronizes the thought and the deed, and we invite other countries in the world and peoples to unite for the sake of the interests common to all of humanity and jointly to protect our planet.

EDITORIAL ON GORBACHEV STATEMENT ANNIVERSARY

PM151443 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Jan 87 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "The Path to the 21st Century. The Soviet Program for a Nuclear-Free World"]

[Text] One year ago -- 15 January 1986 -- the statement by CPSU Central Committee M.S. Gorbachev was promulgated. It contained a program for the establishment of a nuclear-free world before the end of the present century and the elimination of all types of mass destruction weapons, including chemical weapons.

This bold, historic initiative opened up a new chapter in the struggle to eliminate the threat of a nuclear catastrophe, the struggle for mankind's survival. Never before had such a concrete program, majestic in scale and noble of purpose, been put forward for examination by governments and for the judgment of the peoples. At the same time, the novelty was that it directly challenged the routine philosophy which views the world as if in a broken mirror and which advocates the "big stick" principle in international relations.

Imperialism, American above all, is obstinately clinging to a policy that has run its course. The poverty of the old political thinking manifests itself in relation to a whole range of most acute international problems. They are the arms race and the desire to spread it to space, the creation of more and more types of mass destruction weapons, nuclear tests, the buildup of conventional armaments, and the fueling of regional conflicts. One wonders how long it is possible to live in the past without hearing the demands of millions of people, to lie and pretend all this is allegedly being done for the sake of peace.

The program put forward in the Soviet statement is a call to preserve peace and defend civilization. It embodies the new political thinking and assumes the modern world is contradictory but interdependent and in many respects integral. In the nuclear-space era this dictates the need for constructive, creative collaboration among states and peoples in a worldwide scale. It is necessary to prevent a nuclear catastrophe, it is necessary to make it possible for civilization to survive, it is necessary to tackle the growing problems facing all mankind together, in the interests of all peoples.

The 27th CPSU Congress elaborated and adopted the Principles of an All-embracing System of International Security. Basically it is a matter of fusing the philosophy of the formation of a secure world with the plan for concrete and vigorous actions by our country in the international arena.

The program set out in the statement is given particular force because it has been proclaimed by a great and mighty power capable of handling any scientific-technical task. The Soviet Union's material and intellectual potential enables it to create any weapon if we are forced to do so. Our country is not aspiring to greater security than the others, neither will it settle for less. Our ideal is peace without weapons and without violence. This we see as expressing the humanism of communist ideology, its moral values.

The world situation remains complex and tense. It should be noted that last year the new political thinking did begin to materialize in international relations and is becoming part of international political practice. Our people and our country have every right to be proud of the fact that in this sense the world is not like it was a year ago.

The Soviet Union's words are not at odds with its actions. The statement was the basis, the starting point for important international actions by our country contributing to the untying of many difficult world political knots. At the same time, it was a powerful stimulus to all peace-loving forces and realistically minded politicians to embark on the specific examination and solution of the urgent, burning problems facing the international community.

The Soviet-American summit meeting in Reykjavik was the hilltop from which the world surveyed the reality of the program for a nuclear-free world. It fully confirmed that the statement was not a "utopian slogan," not a "dream, beautiful though it may be," as some in the West have claimed, but a direct guide to action, a concrete plan which can be embarked upon right away.

Whereas the United States went to the Icelandic capital effectively empty-handed, the USSR placed on the negotiating table concrete proposals on strategic weapons, on medium-range missiles, and on questions of verification [kontrol], the cessation of nuclear tests, and the nonmilitarization of space. It was a creative development of the provisions enshrined in the 15 January 1986 statement. In the course of difficult and fierce debates it was demonstrated, thanks to the flexibility shown by the Soviet side, that goodwill and a switch from words to action are needed to eliminate the threat facing mankind.

Reykjavik also confirmed the statement's prophetic words that if you keep the door shut on the solution of the space problem it means you do not want to halt the arms race on earth. An historic opportunity was missed on this occasion only because the present U.S. administration, which is in the military-industrial complex's power, had no intention or was incapable of banishing the chimera of SDI for the sake of real disarmament. With the aid of its "star wars" plan Washington is attempting to retrieve military superiority and wreck the established strategic military parity. This stance is incompatible with nuclear disarmament.

The European aspect of the nuclear problem is of great importance. Our continent has been turned into the biggest and most explosive nuclear dump in the world. There is special concern at the siting of U.S. first-strike missiles in a number of West European countries. To cut this Gordian knot, the Soviet Union has proposed, as a radical first step, the elimination, at the very first stage of the implementation of its program, of all Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in the European zone.

Washington and some West European capitals now want to pull to pieces the package of Soviet proposals which was placed on the negotiating table in the Icelandic capital and take from it only the items on which the Soviet Union has made concessions, without giving anything in return. Moreover, certain Western forces would not mind filing away the major achievement which the Reykjavik accords constitute and pretending it never existed. Once again they are peddling the tedious myth of the "Soviet military threat."

The opponents of nuclear disarmament claim that the USSR is in favor of eliminating nuclear weapons merely to acquire superiority in the sphere of conventional armaments. In June of last year the Soviet Union, together with its Warsaw Pact allies, put forward a proposal on comprehensive and deep cuts in armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe, from the Atlantic to the Urals. However, so far the NATO countries have not agreed to a concrete discussion of these proposals.

The total elimination of chemical weapons -- one of the most dangerous and barbaric means of mass destruction -- by the end of the century is an integral part of the Soviet disarmament plan set out in the 15 January statement. Again there has so far been no reply from the West to the concrete proposals put forward by the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries.

The new political thinking, on which the statement is based, is running into many obstacles. But the past year bears witness that it is already becoming part of life. The Soviet Union's constructive collaboration with the other participants of the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Europe contributed to the successful conclusion of the conference. Our country has urged and is urging the results achieved in Stockholm be developed in Vienna at the next meeting of the representatives of the states that participated in the all-European conference.

The program set out in the statement applies not only to Soviet-American relations and Europe. It embraces the future of millions of people, including those living in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. The statement has made an important contribution in the joint quest with all countries for a common, comprehensive approach to the formation of a system of security and lasting peace. This is also the aim of the proposals put forward by the CPSU Central Committee general secretary in Vladivostok on safeguarding security in such an important part of the world as Asia and the Pacific Ocean basin.

The Delhi Declaration, signed in November 1986 during the Soviet-Indian summit, was a major step forward in the materialization of the new political thinking. It enshrines the principles of a nonviolent world free from nuclear weapons, principles which stem from the priority significance of human values and the need for joint efforts to build a world free from nuclear weapons, violence and hatred, suspicion and fear.

The fact that the new political thinking is breaking through in the peoples' consciousness and is becoming part of the practice of international relations is evidenced by the appeal by the "six states from four continents" advocating the immediate cessation of the nuclear arms race and the prevention of the appearance of weapons in space. It is also indicated by the Nonaligned Movement's "Harare Appeal," which is a strong and firm call for an end to the arms race and the abolition of nuclear weapons and for a strong link between disarmament and development problems. The UN General Assembly's approval of the concept of an all-embracing system of international security, put forward by a group of socialist countries, should also be seen in this way.

The 15 January 1986 statement was a concrete new manifestation of the peace-loving foreign policy of the CPSU and our state. The Soviet people warmly approve and support its provisions. They regard it as an organic combination of our foreign policy course with the plans for internal restructuring and acceleration of the entire process of our society's life and they are firmly resolved through their labor to augment the power and might of our socialist homeland, which is the bulwark of world peace. At the same time, our people see the disarmament plan contained in the statement as the supreme manifestation of their international duty and concern not only for the life of the present generation, but for the earth's future inhabitants.

The CPSU Central Committee general secretary's statement was made at the very start of the International Year of Peace announced by the United Nations. When the Soviet Union entered that year silence had already reigned for 5 months at its nuclear test sites. We extended the moratorium on nuclear explosions despite the fact that the others continued to improve their weapons of death. Our country's extension of the moratorium beyond 1 January this year -- until the first U.S. blast -- provides yet another chance to place an effective barrier in the way of the nuclear arms race.

The new year of 1987 has taken over from the International Year of Peace. The Soviet Union will continue to struggle consistently and persistently to implement the complex foreign policy initiatives put forward in M.S. Gorbachev's statement that mankind can greet the year 2000 beneath a peaceful sky and with confidence in its future.

TASS OUTLINES SOVIET DISARMAMENT PROGRAM

LD151101 Moscow TASS in English 1045 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 15 TASS -- "Confidence that the human race will survive and continue can only be gained if it is delivered from the threat of nuclear, chemical or any other destruction," Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said a year ago today in a statement suggesting a wide-ranging program for a nuclear-free world.

The MOSCOW NEWS weekly in its issue 3, recalling the highlights of that program, said it included the following main proposals:

-- Acting consistently, step by step, to start ridding the earth of nuclear weapons and complete this process within the immediate future, before the end of this century,

-- To stop nuclear explosions and thus make a practical step to eliminate nuclear arms,

-- To keep outer space peaceful and free from space strike weapons,

-- To deliver Europe from both medium-range and tactical nuclear weapons,

-- To destroy such barbarous weapons of mass annihilation as chemical arms as early as this century,

-- To make agreed cuts in conventional arms and armed forces,

-- To change the situation in Asia fundamentally, deliver its nations from the nuclear and chemical threat, and raise the security level in the region to a basically new high.

The weekly said the program for mankind's survival unveiled by the Soviet leader, which is history-making for its ultimate goals and significance, has been consistently pursued throughout the past year and backed up with ever new initiatives and practical actions, including:

-- A package of realistic proposals put on the table in Reykjavik,

-- Five extensions of a unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing, which has now remained in effect for almost 18 months, despite U.S. refusal to follow suit,

-- Joint proposals with the other Warsaw Treaty countries for deep cuts in armed forces and conventional arms in Europe,

-- A detailed program for the peaceful exploration of outer space through broad international cooperation,

-- Detailed proposals for peace and security in Asia, made in Vladivostok,

-- A concept for a comprehensive system of international security, advanced together with other socialist countries,

-- A proposal for a representative international conference on the entire range of humanitarian problems, to be held in Moscow,

-- The return of part of Soviet troops in Afghanistan to the USSR,

-- The signing of the Delhi Declaration on principles for a nuclear-weapon-free and non-violent world,

-- A proposal for convening a world congress on eonomic security.

"The 12 months that have elapsed since Mikhail Gorbachev's statement will go down in history as a period when new political thinking came forth and was affirming itself on the planet -- thinking that proceeds from the need for pooling the efforts of nations to build a nuclear-free world and deliver it from violence, hatred, suspicion and fear," the MOSCOW NEWS said.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA ON DISARMAMENT EFFORTS IN 1986

PM151619 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Jan 87 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "In the Interests of All the Peoples"]

[Text] A year ago, on 15 January 1986, the entire planet heard M.S. Gorbachev's statement which outlined the program for creating a nuclear-free world and eliminating all kinds of mass destruction weaponry, including chemical weapons, by the end of the century. The appearance of this most important document of our day was dictated as new political thinking based on the prime importance of common human values and the need to pool efforts in building a world free of violence, suspicion, and fear.

The Soviet Union made this initiative -- unprecedented in terms of its scale and aims -- at the very time the acute question of mankind's survival was being placed on the agenda. So much nuclear explosive has been accumulated on the planet there is enough to kill everyone on earth several times over. Nonetheless, the arms race continues through the fault of the United States. Furthermore, it threatens to move into space, which will create an unforseeable situation. Under these circumstances our country, relying on the support of all peace-loving forces, has conducted a resolute offensive against the threat of nuclear war.

During the past year the Soviet Union fleshed out its program, reinforcing it with practical steps. The most important of these is the unilateral Soviet moratorium on nuclear explosions. Striving to erect an effective barrier in the way of the nuclear arms race, the Soviet Union has repeatedly extended its moratorium. Concern for a nuclear-free world also dictated the USSR's latest decision -- to extend the moratorium after 1 January 1987 until the first U.S. explosion.

The proposal advanced by the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Pact states for comprehensive and deep cuts in conventional arms and armed forces in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals gained the progressive public's broad support. It cuts the ground from under the feet of the opponents of nuclear disarmament, who have stated that the elimination of nuclear arsenals would allegedly ensure Soviet superiority in the sphere of conventional arms and armed forces.

In the chronicle of events since the 15 January 1986 statement a special place goes to the Soviet-U.S. Reykjavik summit. It was aimed at determining a way out of the vicious circle of the accelerating arms race. Owing to Washington's obstructionist position the meeting did not lead to any practical results. Nonetheless, real prospects for a nuclear-free world opened up before mankind thanks to the meeting.

A portentous landmark on the road of ridding the planet of mass destruction weaponry was the Delhi Declaration on the principles of a nonviolent world free from nuclear weapons, which was signed during the Soviet-Indian meeting. It is in line with the conditions of the nuclear and space ages and reflects the interests of the entire world community and the hopes and aspirations of all the peoples.

The Land of the Soviets firmly defends the cause of peace in the international arena. The Soviet Union supported the "Harare Appeal," which voiced the Nonaligned Movement's call for an end to the arms race and the abolition of nuclear weapons. It also responded with complete understanding and readiness for practical action to the appeal from the "six states on four continents" which advocated a speedy end to the nuclear arms race and the prevention of weapons being launched into space. The USSR actively supported a whole series of proposals for reducing the level of military confrontation in certain parts of Europe and put forward its own large-scale initiatives for ensuring lasting peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region. The Soviet Union was one of the socialist countries which put forward the concept of a comprehensive international security system for discussion at the 41st UN General Assembly session...

M.S. Gorbachev's message to UN Secretary General J. Perez de Cuellar was a new boost to the practical action to ensure that peace is everlasting. It reaffirms our country's commitment to saving mankind from the threat of nuclear war and creating the foundations of comprehensive security equal for all. At the same time the message is also an impassioned appeal for exceptional effort leading to the implementation of real measures to limit and end the arms race.

The desperate opposition to the cause of peace and detente on the part of the U.S. military-industrial complex and the other aggressive forces of international imperialism stood out sharply against the background of the Soviet Union's untiring desire to do everything possible to prevent a nuclear catastrophe. The erosion and subversion of existing agreements limiting nuclear arsenals -- including the SALT II treaty -- and the attempts to wreck strategic stability and attain military superiority continue. The West strives to present Soviet peace initiatives as a kind of socialist weakness and to prove that if just a little more pressure were applied the Soviet Union would fold and be forced to concede its positions.

The attempts and hopes of the supporters of the arms race are in vain. The USSR's love of peace has nothing to do with weakness. The peaceful labor of the Soviet people and their friends and allies is reliably defended. The mighty USSR Armed Forces, equipped with everything they need, stand guard over socialist gains.

CEMA PERMANENT COMMISSION MEETS 13-15 JAN

LD152042 Moscow TASS in English 2002 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 15 TASS -- The 74th meeting of the CMEA permanent commission on foreign trade was held here on January 13-15. It discussed the results of the commission's work in 1986 and defined tasks ensuing from decisions taken by the CMEA session at its 42nd meeting and by the council's executive committee. The plan of its work for 1987-1988 approved by the commission concentrates on realizing tasks aimed at meeting fully obligations for mutual deliveries of goods, strengthening the contractual discipline, implementing measures to raise a technical level and quality of delivered goods and guaranteeing an evn flow of supplies.

REPORT VIEWS ACCOMPLISHMENT, GOALS OF IBEC

LD151634 Moscow TASS in English 1556 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 15 TASS -- The volume of mutual settlements made by the CMEA countries through the International Bank for Economic Cooperation (IBEC) in the past year, totalled 220 billion transferable roubles. The volume of various banking operations, above all those for servicing trade, was equivalent to 327 billion dollars.

Vazha Dzhindzhikhadze, president of the IBEC board, said to a TASS correspondent that the volume of the bank's settlement and credit operations increases yearly by up to 10 percent, an indication of the growing scale and depth of multilateral economic ties among the fraternal countries.

The bank's capital stock exceeds 300 million transferable roubles which is used to support multilateral settlements, creaditing and other operations involved in cooperation among the CMEA countries. Towards the end of last year the paid-up part of the capital stock was increased and now amounts to 230 million transferable roubles.

IBEC credits help ensure an uninterrupted development of commercial and economic ties between socialist states and enable them to draw additional funds into the production process and speed up their economic growth rates. The average value of credits in transferable roubles was 3 percent last year. Easy interest rates (from 0.5 to 2 percent) were set for Vietnam, Cuba and Mongolia in order to stimulate their economic development.

The IBEC attracts and places funds in convertible currency. Its liabiilities in convertible currency total about 1.6 billion transferable roubles (an equivalent of 2.4 billion U.S. dollars).

The bank provides countries and begins to extend credits for financing measures involved in the implementation of the Comprehensive Programme for Scientific and Technological Progress as well as projects undertaken in the course of direct ties between economic and scientific-and-production organizations.

The IBEC does not orient itself to making maximum gain and does not pursue any tendentious policies towards individual countries. Every country in the IBEC board has one vote irrespective of the size of its share in the capital stock. The principle of unanimity is observed in decision-making by the bank's board.

All this shows that the IBEC differs vastly from banking organizations of the capitalist world. In the International Monetary Fund, for instance, the number of votes used by a country depends on its share of the IMF capital stock. The United States and other leading capitalist countries possessing the biggest number of votes have the bank's board take decisions suiting their interests. In August last, they imposed on the IMF a decision to declare Peru 'insolvent' when the latter took a firm stand in upholding its national interests. Not infrequently, the International Monetary Fund demands that a country seeking its credits should revise its economic policy.

RED TAPE SAID TO HINDER TIES WITH BLOC COUNTRIES

PM151607 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 4 January 1987 First Edition carries on page 1 under the rubric "Our Dialogue" and the headline "Counting on Fraternity" a 2,100-word Yuriy Nikolayev report on comments on cooperation with the USSR made by Czechoslovak and GDR officials to the author during trips to those countries. In particular, a Slovak party official and collective farm chairman is quoted as saying: "We must undertake direct ties with Russian kolkhozes, for the benefit will be mutual, but to do so we must overcome a mass of bureaucratic obstacles erected by both sides." The author goes on to refer to some difficulties associated with introducing useful Soviet experience in other countries and vice versa, pointing out that it is sometimes necessary to resort to "semilegal" means to overcome delays. He concludes by citing a letter from a USSR light industry ministry institute staffer who complains of a 3-year delay in assisting Polish colleagues: "Polish comrades bitterly joked that Americans know how to work, while you will very likely get bogged down in papers and agreements. They seemed to know in advance. A good intention really drowned in bureaucratic tangles. I tried to ascertain the reason why at the USSR Gosplan, the State Committee for Science and Technology, and the USSR Light Industry Ministry, but got nowhere."

GERASIMOV HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE ON POLICY ISSUES

LD151517 Moscow TASS in English 1515 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 15 TASS -- The head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Information Department, Gennadiy Gerasimov, who spoke at a briefing in the ministry's press center today, called attention of the newsmen to the first anniversary on January 15 of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's statement setting forth a programme for creating a nuclear-free world.

Gerasimov said the statement has become a most important political document of the times.

Concretising this programme, the Soviet Union has made many important initiatives, among which a special place belongs to a Soviet proposal for meeting in Reykjavik, which has been accepted by the American side, he said.

Reykjavik has elevated the cause of nuclear disarmament to an all-time high from which there have opened fresh prospects, the Soviet spokesman said.

In the new year, the spokesman for the USSR Foreign Ministry said, we are also determined to work consistently and perseveringly so that that package of initiatives be translated into life, that the new political thinking make way in international affairs.

The spokesman for the USSR Foreign Ministry also said that today is the 528th day of the Soviet moratorium on nuclear weapon tests. That counting could be done not in days but in years. Had the United States followed the Soviet Union's good example. Various governments and public organizations are addressing a request to us that the moratorium be extended. The Soviet stand is explicit. We are prepared to extend the moratorium any time, to re-introduce it any moment, should the other side stop its tests. Therefore, the appeal for an end to nuclear testing should be addressed, above all, to the USA.

Having reminded that an important event will take place in Afghanistan today, where the proposal of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan on a ceasefire takes effect as of midnight, the spokesman of the USSR Foreign Affairs Ministry emphasized that the idea of national reconciliation met with the understanding of the broad sections of the Afghan people, including the Moslem clergy.

Replying to correspondents, he said that the Soviet Union advocated the earliest withdrawal of its limited troop contingent from Afghanistan but that the time for that withdrawal would depend on the settlement of the situation around Afghanistan. It would depend on the type of response the current steps towards national reconciliation would have from the opposing side. He announced that several counterrevolutionary detachments had already gone over to the side of the government. Many refugees in Pakistan and Iran would like to return home. However, there are forces which want, figuratively speaking, to keep the kettle boiling.

Announces Withdrawal From MPR

LD151426 Moscow TASS in English 1418 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 15 TASS -- Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the USSR Foreign Ministry's Information Department, at a briefing today was asked about the Soviet Government's decision to return, under an understanding with the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic, one motorized rifle division and several separate units from the contingent of Soviet troops temporarily stationed in Mongolia back to the Soviet Union next April through June.

Answering the questions, he said:

"The USSR seeks to move forward the idea of pan-Asian security and attaches much significance to developing the situation in the Asian/Pacific region.

"The withdrawal of part of the Soviet troops from the MPR is fully in line with this policy and should, we are convinced, help improve the general situation in the region."

Withdrawal Aimed at Ties With PRC

OW160107 Tokyo KYODO in English 0044 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow, Jan. 15 KYODO -- A Soviet "motorized" division will be withdrawn from Mongolia between April and June, Foreign Ministry Spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov said Thursday.

The scheduled troop pullout -- involving about one fifth of the Soviet military personnel stationed in Mongolia -- follows an announcement made by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in Vladivostok in July last year.

The partial troop withdrawal is believed aimed at promoting normalization of relations between Moscow and Beijing, according to analysts here.

China has insisted that withdrawal of Soviet forces from Sino-Soviet border areas is one of the conditions for the normalization of bilateral relations.

An estimated 75,000 Soviet troops are believed to be stationed in Mongolia under the 1966 treaty of friendship and cooperation between Mongolia and the Soviet Union.

Gerasimov said the troop withdrawal will be made on the basis of the Soviet Government decision and the agreement of the Mongolian Government.

He also said that the Soviet Union is promoting its concept of Asian security and the coming partial withdrawal of its troops from Mongolia will contribute to the improvement of the situation in Asia as a whole.

The spokesman refused to give the exact number of troops expected to be brought home from Mongolia. But it is believed the number will total more than 10,000 since a normal Soviet division is made up of 11,000 to 12,000 military personnel.

The question is where the troops will be assigned following their withdrawal from Mongolia. There seems to be a strong possibility that they will be posted along the Soviet-Mongolian border. Western military sources said they would be no strategic significance in such a deployment. There has not been much progress in Sino-Soviet relations, except in the economic field, although Moscow under Gorbachev's leadership has been making active steps to improve bilateral ties. Beijing has said that Moscow must puli out Soviet troops from Afghanistan as well as from Mongolia and also stop giving military aid to Vietnam regarding its stationing of troops in Kampuchea if it wants to improve relations between China and the Soviet Union.

Discusses Iran-Iraq Hostilities

LD151521 Moscow TASS in English 1517 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 15 TASS -- A Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman, addressing a briefing on current affairs here today, rejected Washington's claims that the covert American arms shipments to Iran were intended for repulsing a possible Soviet attack.

He said that "the man drowning in the turpid waters of Irangate is catching not at a straw but at the unsinkable log of the concocted Soviet threat."

"The Soviet Union is Iran's neighbour and we would like to maintain good neighbourly relations with it." The Foreign Ministry spokesman recalled the Soviet Government's January 9 statement on the Iran-Iraq conflict.

In expressing anxiety over the heightening of hostilities on the Iran-Iraq front, the Foreign Ministry spokesman observed that Iraq advanced proposals for finding a political settlement to the conflict, including one of January 6.

"We believe that the continuation of the conflict is not in the interests of Iraq, Iran or their neighbours. He recalled the U.N. secretary general's proposal to summon a Security Council meeting at foreign ministers level to consider this issue," the spokesman said.

Asked about the release of the provocative film "Amerika" in the U.S., the spokesman answered that the Soviet state radio and television committee (Gosteleradio) officially requested the American ABC Company, which produced the film, to sell it to the Soviet Union to be shown on Central Television.

"This would enable Soviet television viewers to judge for themselves as to how Soviet people are portrayed in America. We haven't received a reply to that proposal."

PRAVDA DISCUSSES ASIAN SECURITY PROBLEMS

PM141127 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Jan 86 p 4

[Article by Political Observer Vsevolod Ovchinnikov: "The Asian Aspect"]

[Text] The Soviet program for eliminating nuclear and chemical weapons by the end of this century is in tune with the feelings of the peoples of Asia, for whom problems of peace and security are no less acute than for the European peoples....The implementation of our program would fundamentally alter the situation in Asia, would rid the peoples of that part of the world also of fear of the nuclear and chemical threat, and would raise security in that region to a qualitatively new level.

These lines from the CPSU Central Committee general secretary's 15 January 1986 statement sound even more topical this year than when they were announced. Asia accounts for one-third of the world's dry land and over two-thirds of mankind. Five of the world's seven most populous countries are situated here: China, India, the USSR, Indonesia, and Japan. Neither the prospect of a nuclear-free world nor the assertion of an all-embracing international security system is conceivable without enlisting the Asian and Pacific region to this process.

As a state which has its own most extensive borders in Asia, the USSR is seeking to ensure that the Asian and Pacific region is not a source of tension or an arena of military confrontation. The course of events in this part of the world is of national and state interest for our country. This in no way implies claims to any privileges, the search for advantage to the detriment of others or attempts to strengthen our security at others' expense. We see our interest in pooling efforts, in cooperating with full respect for each people's right to live as it chooses.

The Soviet program for creating a nuclear-free world is particularly attuned to the feelings of the Asian peoples because it was precisely in that part of the world that the first U.S. atom bombs exploded, reducing Hiroshima and Nagasaki to dust. It is with Asia that the first plans for the use of U.S. nuclear weapons in "regional conflicts" against the Korean, Vietnamese, and Chinese people were linked. It was in Asia and the Pacific Ocean basin that the sinister consequences of the nuclear race were first felt, when Japanese fishermen suffered from the radioactive dust of the U.S. hydrogen bomb.

On numerous occasions in the postwar decades Asia has been the arena of imperialist piracy, which has now become the linchpin of the doctrine of "neoglobalism." It was in Asia that the U.S. military unleashed the two biggest wars since 1945: in Korea and Vietnam. Seeking to reverse history and to deprive the peoples of the right to determine their own historical path, imperialism disdains nothing. There is the setting of some states against others, military actions, state terrorism against inconvenient regimes, the arming and financing of separatists and terrorists, economic blockade and debt slavery, and various acts of political subversion and intrigues.

The undeclared wars against Afghanistan and Kampuchea, support for the Punjab extremists, the Tamil problem which they also want to turn against India, the shameless annexation of Micronesia, interference in political processes in the Philippines, the pressure on New Zealand -- such is neoglobalism in its unadulterated form. The tempo of the young states' development, their surmounting of the difficulties inherited from the past; depend largely on whether they will be able to offer proper resistance to neoglobalism -- that main evil in the path of world progress. The solution of the truly global problem of disarmament and development will also depend on this.

Recently there has been a marked activation in the attempts of U.S. imperialist circles to use the Asian and Pacific region as one more arena of military-political confrontation with the USSR and the other socialist states and the national liberation forces. The Pentagon is seeking to turn the countries in Asia and the Pacific, where the eastern borders of world socialism pass, into a frontier for the deployment of forward-based nuclear weapons, such as West Europe and the adjacent Atlantic have already become.

As a whole the Asian and Pacific region has still not been militarized to the same degree as the European region. Since the latter half of the seventies the United States has intensively built up its military presence there. Although two out of the three Pacific Ocean states with nuclear weapons -- the USSR and the PRC -- have pledged not to make first use of them, the United States has deployed nuclear weapon delivery vehicles and nuclear warheads in a crisis zone -- the south of the Korean peninsula.

Counter to the "three nonnuclear principles," U.S. fighter bombers designed to deliver nuclear strikes have been deployed on Japanese territory. Encouraging militarist tendencies in Japan, U.S. imperialism is seeking to turn it into a key link in the anti-Soviet, antisocialist "Eastern front." They want to enclose Washington's military links with Tokyo and Seoul in a triangle for the same purpose. In brief, we cannot fail to see that militarization and the buildup of the military threat in this part of the world are beginning to gather dangerous speed.

Peace and security cannot be ensured by a policy geared toward confrontation. The Asian and Pacific region can and must actively join in the general world process aimed at preventing a thermonuclear catastrophe. That is why the Soviet Union's appeal is so topical: to act together to seek ways toward the consolidation of peace, security, and cooperation in Asia and the Pacific Ocean basin. The peoples of this part of the world are interested in a coordinated approach toward regional problems. The Soviet Union proposes seeking a settlement of vexed questions through bilateral and multilateral consultations, strengthening mutual trust, and gradually creating the preconditions for holding a pan-Asian forum of the same type as the Helsinki conference to jointly engage in the search for constructive solutions.

The opponents of this idea claim the security formula elaborated in Europe is inapplicable to Asia. Of course, the specific features of the Asian and Pacific region cannot be ignored. Furthermore, the USSR has absolutely no desire to impose a ready-made formula for pan-Asian security on other states but calls on them to take part together in its elaboration. As the fruit of joint efforts, this formula should be acceptable to all and reflect each state's interests. It is a case not of the mechanical transfer of European experience onto Asian soil but of considering Helsinki in giving practical embodiment to the principles once elaborated by the peoples of Asia themselves.

The concept of pan-Asian security does not come from the air. As the Indian prime minister has said, the principles of "Panch Shila," Bandung, and nonalignment to which the CPSU Central Committee general secretary referred in his speech in Vladivostok create the theoretical and political framework for analyzing the complex and unique problems of peace and stability in the Asian and Pacific region.

The Soviet-Indian summit talks in Delhi lent powerful impetus to the positive processes in Asia. Through the force of their example the USSR and India are promoting the assertion of the principles of peaceful coexistence, impeding the tendencies leading to nuclear catastrophe, and demonstrating the real possibility of opposing imperial ambitions and militarist diktat. The Delhi Declaration signed by the two countries' leaders embodies a graphic example of new political thinking.

A world free from nuclear weapons and violence, the Delhi Declaration says, requires specific and urgent measures. It is essential to totally destroy nuclear arsenals before the end of this century, to prevent any weapons from being put into space, to ban nuclear tests and the creation of new weapons of mass annihilation, to destroy chemical weapons stockpiles, and to lower the level of conventional armaments and armed forces.

It is not hard to see these aims coincide with the main provisions of the program for a nuclear-free world put forward in the 15 January statement accord with the idea of creating an all-embracing system of international security. The implementation of these Soviet initiatives and the realization of the principles of the Delhi Declaration would normalize the situation in the Asian and Pacific region. [paragraph continues]

Against the background of the gradual elimination of nuclear weapons it would also be possible to ensure the interest of the security of states which do not possess them. They would officially proclaim their adherence to the three nonnuclear principles: not to have or produce nuclear weapons or import them onto their territory. The nuclear powers would pledge on the basis of international law not to use nuclear weapons against the countries and regions of that part of the world which observe nuclear-free status.

With an agreement on the total elimination of nuclear weapons by the end of this century it would be immeasurably easier to agree also on other measures to strengthen peace and security in the Asian and Pacific region. If a nuclear-free world were to become a general political guideline, favorable preconditions would take shape for eliminating foreign military bases on the territories of the Asian states and in the Pacific and Indian Ocean basins.

The elaboration of the concept of pan-Asian security on the basis of nuclear disarmament is a long-term task which has to be resolved stage by stage, moving from the simple to the complex. Yet even the longest journey begins with the first step. In addition the development of the pan-Asian process is now favored by factors like the growth of the authority and positive role of the Nonaligned Movement, the upsurge in antimilitary, antinuclear feelings, the activation of the struggle for a new international economic order, and the marked improvement of Soviet-Chinese relations.

"The CPSU," its program states, "advocates the pooling of the efforts of all interested states with a view to ensuring security in Asia and their joint quest for the constructive solution of this problem."

U.S. MEDIA CITED ON 'DISINFORMATION' TO IRAN, IRAQ

PM151559 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Jan 87 First Edition p 5

[Unattributed report: "Word for Word"]

[Text] THE NEW YORK TIMES: According to intelligence service spokesmen, the U.S. intelligence services have in recent years supplied Iran and Iraq with deliberately distorted or inaccurate intelligence information to achieve the Reagan administration's aims in that region.

According to them, assessments of the Soviet threat intended for Iranian official circles were formulated to exaggerate the scale of Soviet troop concentrations on the border with Iran.

At the same time, a certain amount of information obtained via satellites and passed to Iraq was altered to mislead Iraq or keep it in ignorance. According to one informed source, photographs were retouched to remove important details.

According to intelligence service spokesmen, the United States simultaneously took the following steps: It sold arms to Iran; it secretly supported emigre groups trying to topple the Iranian Government; it provided reliable information about the penetration of the Iranian communist organization by Soviet agents; and it supplied Iran and Iraq with unreliable or incomplete intelligence information.

The supply of information to Iran was mentioned in President Reagan's 17 January 1986 directive devoted to this secret program.

The CBS television network reports: "The CIA has denied a report published in THE NEW YORK TIMES claiming that the United States carried out yet another disinformation campaign with the aim of foisting falsified intelligence information on both Iran and Iraq. The alleged aim in supplying both sides with false intelligence information was, according to the newspaper, to prevent either of them from winning the war. The CIA has declared this report is false. However, the State Department confirmed to a CBS correspondent that both Iran and Iraq were supplied with misleading U.S. intelligence reports."

U.S. Press Reports 'New Facts'

LD151930 Moscow TASS in English 1653 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Washington January 15 TASS -- New facts are being reported by the American press showing that the aims of the "Iranian Operations" were much more far reaching than contended by the administration. Thus, according to THE WASHINGTON POST, it was to prepare conditions for a state coup in Iran to overthrow the existing government and replace it with a pro-American regime. The paper says that the recently dismissed staff member of the National Security Council Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North had worked out a long-term plan in January 1986 providing for the overthrow of Ayatollah Khomeyni.

Observers recall in this connection that in the 1950s the CIA had staged for Washington a state coup in Iran resulting in the overthrow of Mossadeq's progressive regime.

Former Secretary of State Cyrus Vance told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, which has started hearings of "Irangate", that U.S. secret arms deliveries to Iran had most negatively affected the positions of the United States as the leader of the Western world, inflicted damage both to the national interests of the United States and to its credibility in the world.

He also said that Washington had shown duplicity and hypocrisy in respect of its own allies by supplying arms to Tehran behind their backs and contrary to its own statements.

Cyrus Vance also stressed that the consequences of the Iranian scandal would make themselves felt throughout the remaining years of the present administrations stay in office.

New York January 15 TASS -- The leadership of the Republican Party wants to prevent further exposures of unseemly aspects of U.S. policy and a further decline of the government's prestige as a result of the continuing "Irangate" scandal and urges the President to put an end to the issue by drastically changing the tactics of his defence and taking the blame for this unlawful action.

THE NEW YORK TIMES writes that many Republicans in Congress, including the President's staunchest supporters, who are taking part in investigating the "Iran-Contras" operation, are now arriving at the conclusion that Reagan should assume full responsibility for the mistakes made by his administration, apologize and ask the public to forgive him.

It is suggested that the annual State of the Union Message, which the head of the administration is to deliver soon at a joint meeting of both houses of Congress, is a convenient occasion for such "repentance".

CIA Reportedly Provided Contra Aid

LD141047 Moscow TASS in English 0855 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Washington January 14 TASS -- Last year the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency spent thirteen million dollars on aid to the Nicaraguan Contras, the newspaper THE WASHINGTON POST said today.

Quoting evidence by usually well-informed persons among the administration and Congress, the newspaper says that on January 9, 1986, President Reagan signed a top secret decree under which the CIA was instructed to provide the Nicaraguan counter-revolutionaries with intelligence recommendations and communications equipment. The order was given at a time when a ban on the granting of direct military aid to the contras imposed by Congress was officially in effect.

Poll Shows 'Scandal Damage'

LD160942 Moscow TASS in English 2159 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Washington January 15 TASS -- The scandal triggered off by the secret arms supplies to Iran and diversion of proceeds to Nicaraguan contras, has seriously damaged the U.S. President's prestige. This is clear from the results of the Gallup poll which were published today. For instance, 46 percent of the polled think that it is impossible to trust Reagan. 42 per cent of the polled frankly said that the affair with Iran and Contras is so serious that makes doubt Reagan's ability to run the country. And 38 per cent believe that the U.S. President covers up the truth.

ECONOMIST URGES TRADE EXPANSION, COOPERATION

LD151009 Moscow TASS in English 0952 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] New York January 15 TASS -- TASS correspondent Igor Makurin reports:

Thomas Naylor, a prominent U.S. economist, professor at Duke University, has urged the Reagan administration to reconsider its policy in the field of trade-and-economic contacts with the USSR.

In an article published by the JOURNAL OF COMMERCE AND COMMERCIAL, he emphasises that the outcome of the present course of U.S. Government is that the U.S. business world has missed many opportunities to conclude the needed contracts and to establish important and mutually beneficial cooperation with the USSR.

The U.S. economist points out that in the event of continuation of such an unconsidered policy the U.S. can be struck off the list of the Soviet Union's main trading partners altogether and contracts which U.S. corporations could count upon would go to other countries, including America's main competitors.

Mr. Naylor is of the opinion that the United States should give up the outdated stereotypes concerning the Soviet Union and take all necessary measures to lift the now existing discriminatory restrictions on trade with the USSR.

'ANTI-USSR FUROR' PAVES WAY FOR U.S.-CANADA PACT

PM151049 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 6 Jan 87 First Edition p 3

[A. Mozgovoy article: "Polar Passions. Anti-Soviet Furor in Canada"]

[Text] SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA reported in its 5 December 1986 issue a speech made in Canada's Parliament by the country's Foreign Minister Joseph Clark. He stunned the legislators with a sensational statement. In his words, "about 300 Soviet submarines are in Canadian territorial waters."

True enough, sober-minded people immediately started asking questions. Why did this Soviet submarine fleet suddenly appear in Canadian waters? Does it not have enough room off its own shores and on the high seas? Why should Russian admirals be so keenly interested in Canada of all places? As if they have no other more important targets for their attention. Evil tongues even argued in consequence: What is the head of Canada's foreign policy department more afflicted by -- delusions of grandeur or persecution mania?

Everything became clear a few days ago. Canada's Minister of Defense Perrin Beatty announced that his government is examining the question of concluding with the United States a treaty on "Defense of North American Sea Borders" for the purpose of "countering the growing threat posed by Soviet submarines in the Arctic." The treaty will be similar to the existing Canadian-U.S. "North American Air and Space Defense" (NORAD) agreement, which the Pentagon is now using to tighten the dangerous "Star Wars" noose around the neighboring state's neck.

NORAD's naval alternative will cost Canada a nice round sum of money. The taxpayers will have to contribute between 400 and 900 million dollars for every nuclear submarine included in the "defense system beneath the Arctic ice." The figment of Jospeh Clark's imagination concerning the presence of 300 Soviet sumbarines in Canadian territorial waters became necessary to make it easier for Canadians to swallow this bitter pill.

People in Ottawa do not rest satisfied simply with fables concerning Soviet sumbarmines. The government claims that if the "naval treaty" with the United States is concluded Washington would recognize Canada's sovereignty over the Northwest Passage -- the sea passage in the North American continent's Arctic waters. The United States has hitherto refused to accommodate Canada on this issue. If the treaty comes into force, what would be the point of gaining sovereignty? After all, U.S. ships would then be fully entitled to sail without hindrance in Canadian Arctic waters. As the perfidious Russians put it in such cases: It all comes down to the same thing...

TASS ON U.S. ENVOY MURPHY'S MIDEAST VISIT

LD152027 Moscow TASS in English 1852 GMT 15 Jan 87

["Why Did Murphy go to the Middle East?"]

[Text] Moscow January 15 TASS -- TASS commentator Grigoriy Vasilyev writes:

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and Southern Asian Affairs Richard Murphy concluded a week-long tour which took him to Jordan, Israel, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia. The American emissary said he had achieved only insignificant progress in the Middle East settlement. But even such an estimate, in the opinion of political observers, is too optimistic.

Before the beginning of Murphy's tour it had been announced in Washington that he was not taking along any new initiatives of the White House about the establishment of peace in the region. And, as is known, the United States course based on the separate Camp David deal and the notorious "Reagan Plan" was rejected in most Arab capitals and was assessed as the striving of the United States and Israel to compel Arabs to capitulate and to subjugate them to the U.S.-Zionist diktat. It was not accidental that actually every trip of high U.S. representatives to the region coincided with fresh piratic sallies of the Israeli military.

And this time, too, Israel raided a Palestinian refugee camp near the South Lebanese city of Sayda, causing more loss of life and destruction on long-suffering Lebanese land.

The Arab press noted that Murphy mainly sought to dampen the negative reaction of Arabs, also in so-called "moderate" countries, to the Irangate scandal which revealed the duplicity of the policy of the U.S. Administration which was calling for the settlement of regional conflicts, while the reality pouring oil into the flame of the Iran-Iraq war.

The latest trip of the U.S. emissary to the Middle East showed clearly that Washington does not seek to establish peace in that explosive area. It only wishes to further its own imperial ambitions and self-seeking interests which run counter to the aspirations of Arab peoples and their striving for independent development and restoration of flouted lawful rights.

U.S. PRESS INTERESTED IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS

LD141446 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0350 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Will Gorbachev succeed with the reforms? Articles under this, or similar, titles can be found just now in virtually every newspaper and magazine. Our correspondent, Vladimir Dunayev reports from Washington:

[Dunayev] There is barely any reporting of our foreign policy, our initiatives or disarmament. That is sparse, but there is plentiful and generous reporting on internal affairs, openness and restructuring: There is no way of overcoming the bureaucracy, to try is futile. The Soviet economy is doomed -- the more it is reformed, the worse things will become.

What is the cause of this interest in our internal affairs, and particularly the changes in the economy? The author of an article that has just appeared in the very influential FOREIGN AFFAIRS magazine under the title "'Does Failure Await Gorbachev?"' answers the question candidly. There is little interest in the West in the truth about the Soviet Union. People are afraid of the Soviet threat. What threat is it that the author of the article -- the well-known capitalist journalist Robert Kaiser, considered an expert on the Soviet Union and for 4 years a correspondent in Moscow -- is talking about? He was talking about this threat: The one and only real threat that emanates from the Soviet Union, writes Kaiser, is the threat that the whole world will be shown it is possible to organize society better than under capitalism. Such a society produces more, is more efficient and thus more attractive to the broad masses of the population of the earth than the Western model.

That was the original Bolshevik threat which stemmed from the young Soviet Russia, the threat when the first satellite headed into space from a socialist country. The reforms, restructuring and openness, Kaiser concludes, have alarmed the West, reviving fears which had died down that in the global historic rivalry of the two systems of society, the victory might not be our Western model. Kaiser then placates his readers, predicting that the Soviet economy could not pick up sufficient speed, that the Western model, however harsh it might be, is still more efficient.

Here he is not original They all want the book of historical problems to contain Washington's answers. I was attracted to the recently published Kaiser article because the fears of the U.S. ruling class are formulated frankly and honestly in it. It is not the military threat, but the social, historical challenge which stems from our country, from our community. That is what has always frightened them and what particularly scares them today.

Incidentally, Washington does not want to tackle disarmament because it recognizes just how dynamically our economy and the social sphere would develop in a non-nuclear, non-missile world. They study and write so much about our changes because they are afraid of them. After all, whatever hindered us, whatever (?shielded) socialism and whatever perverted it was to their advantage, because it made us weaker, more complacent, more inert, and also because it deterred from the new world those who were prepared to search for other models, who could not fit in with the old world and who felt unhappy in it. That is why they write here about our bureaucracy, which the Soviet Union is not supposed to be able to cope with, with such respect, nay reverence.

We know bureaucracy is not a gift, whatever the model of society. True enough, it is extremely far from simple to root out bureaucracy. That is true. But, all the same, in vain do the Western theoreticians hope to win the historic competition of the two systems with the assistance of Soviet bureaucracy. We shall not give them that satisfaction.

XINHUA CITED ON HU YAOBANG RESIGNATION

LD161319 Moscow TASS in English 1316 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Beijing, January 16 TASS -- Following is a communique of the enlarged meeting of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) issued here today and transmitted by XINHUA.

The Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee held an enlarged meeting on January 16, 1987. At the meeting Hu Yaobang made a self-criticism of his mistakes on major issues of political principles in violation of the party's principle of collective leadership during his tenure as the general secretary of the CPC Central Committee. He requested the Central Committee to approve his resignation as the general secretary.

Participants in the meeting gave Comrade Hu Yaobang a serious and comradely criticism and at the same time acknowledged his achievements in work as they were.

The enlarged meeting made the following decisions:

First, it unanimously agreed to accept Comrade Hu Yaobang's resignation as the general secretary of the party Central Committee;

Second, it unanimously elected Comrade Zhao Ziyang acting general secretary of the party Central Committee;

Third, the above two decisions shall be submitted to the next plenary session of the Central Committee for confirmation; and

Fourth, Comrade Hu Yaobang retains his post as a member of the Political Bureau and member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee.

The enlarged meeting urged the whole party to continue implementing the political line, principles and various domestic and foreign policies formulated by the party Central Committee since the third plenary session of the 11th Central Committee, continue adhering to the four cardinal principles (the socialist road, the people's democratic dictatorship, the leadership by the Communist party, and Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought -- tr.) and combatting bourgeous liberalization, continue taking economic construction as the central task and concentrating efforts on developing the social productive forces, continue the all-round reforms and the policies of opening to the rest of the world and invigorating the domestic economy, continue promoting socialist democracy and improving the socialist legal system, consolidating and enlarging the patriotic united front. All party members and people of all nationalities in the country should be mobilized and organized to work hard and unite as one to strive to fulfil all the tasks set in the Seventh Five-Year Plan.

Attending the enlarged meeting of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee were 18 members and two alternate members of the Political Bureau and four members of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee, 17 leading members of the Central Advisory Commission, two leading members of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, and other comrades.

PRC TU LEADER ATTACKS BOURGEOIS LIBERALIZATION

PM141309 Moscow TRUD in Russian 13 Jan 87 p 3

[Own correspondent S. Kuznetsov dispatch: "All-China Federation of Trade Unions Executive Committee Session"]

[Text] Beijing, 12 Jan -- The trade union newspaper GONGREN RIBAO and a number of other Chinese newspapers reported the recent enlarged session of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions Executive Committee, at which a speech was delivered by Luo Gan, member of the CPC Central Committee and vice chairman of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions.

With regard to the recent student demonstrations in a number of major PRC cities -- in which, according to press estimates, only slightly more than 1 percent of China's 2 million university students took part -- Luo Gan stressed in his speech that "the working class must be the main force in the struggle against bourgeois liberalization." The attempts by certain students to provoke workers and employees to strike and demonstrate were a failure. The trade unions, rallying around the CPC, will continue to maintain and develop the atmosphere of unity and stability in the country and to take a firm stand in the uncompromising struggle against bourgeois liberalization.

It was pointed out at the executive committee session that bourgeois liberalization essentially negates socialism in defending capitalism; it poisons young people's consciousness and hampers the country's modernization process. Trade union workers and activists live and work among broad strata of workers and employees; they must know and sense their moods and aspirations, help to solve any practical problems that crop up, and under party leadership raise the working people's masses to struggle against bourgeois liberalization.

ROLE OF BEIJING STOCK EXCHANGE EXAMINED

PM141154 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Jan 87 p 9

[XINHUA report and telephone report by TASS correspondent Gennadiy Krivosheyev under the rubric "We Report the Details": "Stock Exchange Next Door to the Temple of Heaven" -- first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] At the beginning of the new year -- the second year of the Chinese Seventh 5-Year Plan -- a financial exchange opened in Beijing. This is how XINHUA reported it:

In the first 2 hours after the opening of Beijing's first stock exchange on 3 January, deals worth a total of 550 million yuan were concluded.

Crowds of people, including passers-by, gathered at the stock exchange, which is located in the Hongqiao District, near the Temple of Heaven. The stock exchange offers services in interbank credit and the exchange of shares and transferable securities, and provides advice on financial questions.

In terms of the volume of assets, one of the biggest banks represented in the major Chinese cities is the Beijing branch of the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China.

A representative of this bank stated: "The stock exchange will help to accelerate the circulation of funds between Beijing and local branches."

On 3 January the Beijing Bank and 13 other financial institutions took part in financial operations.

The Beijing trading firm Tianqiao Department Store Company Limited offered buyers shares worth a total of 305,000 yuan. A spokesman for the company told XINHUA that the majority of buyers are private individuals.

One young woman bought shares in the company worth 30,000 yuan for her husband, who heads a school workshop in Shunyi district.

This woman said: "We have bought shares in the company because it has a good reputation and high dividends, and involves no risk." [XINHUA report ends]

We called Beijing. On the line is TASS correspondent Gennadiy Krivosheyev:

[Krivosheyev] The stock exchange by the Temple of Heaven is not the first in China. Experiments in the financial sphere have begun, under a decision of the PRC State Council, in 12 cities. They include such major industrial centers as Shanghai, Guangzhou, Chongqing, Shengyang, and Wuhan. Markets operate in the shares of large stores and enterprises which are popular with the people, as well as markets in short-term interbank credits issued at low interest rates with a view to developing priority sectors of the economy, where many enterprises are permitted to carry out foreign trade operations independently.

[Questioner] What is the purpose of the reform?

[Krivosheyev] To "liven up money" in every way and "transfuse" financial resources from the sectors which do not require additional capital investments at present to the sectors which urgently need them. As a result of stock market operations, the money is received by those who need it and the profits (the interest on credits) by those who invested the money.

[Questioner] How are things transacted at the Beijing stock market?

[Krivosheyev] It offers mediation services for the sale of shares in industrial and commercial enterprises. In the first 4 hours of the stock exchange operations, private individuals acquired shares worth a total of 75,000 yuan in the capital's Tianqiao department store alone. In a conversation with the TASS correspondent, Zhou Fusen, director of the stock exchange, said that the benefit is obvious to both sides: Those who have acquired shares will obtain guaranteed dividends, and the store can buy new goods and equipment. Zhou believes that this form of operation will become widespread.

[Questioner] How does the experimental Chinese stock exchange differ from those in capitalist countries?

[Khivosheyev] I discussed that with Zhou. He noted that the right to go onto the "money market" is granted only to those organizations which can really guarantee benefits to buyers and sellers. It is not possible, for instance, for shares to come onto the stock market from enterprises or stores which have been losing money over the years. That is laid down by appropriate rules. Thus, on the Chinese stock exchange, according to the director, there can be no bankruptcies or millionaire stock market manipulators. In Zhou's view, the stock exchange will help revive the economy, and that is in accordance with the people's interests.

WRITER REPORTS IMPRESSIONS OF PRC VISIT

PM071205 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 3 Jan 87 Second Edition p 3

[Report by Writer Fazu Aliyeva: "Ascending the Mountain of Longevity"]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The past year will be a memorable one for me. I have only just returned from China. Our five-strong writers' delegation headed by Yegor Isayev spent 16 days there.

Our hosts did everything they could to make us feel comfortable and unrestricted.

We were very grieved to hear that many writers had suffered from the "Cultural Revolution." Some of them had spent over 10 years in prisons or had lived in remote provinces without the right to leave. They called the hiatus in communication between countries and peoples unnatural, enforced, and one of the black fruits of that time.

China's writers are now working with inspiration and have received reliable guarantees for themselves and the works they have written.

Our meetings at the Beijing pedagogical institute of foreign languages were sincere and joyful. We spoke here without language barriers and were convinced of how extensively and tirelessly our literature is being translated. And it is not simply being translated; it is being studied, and courses of study and dissertations are being written.

Mounting the stage one after another, the students read our works in a pure Russian.

We were fortunate enough to visit those places in China which make up the country's face and are its national pride. When we saw the Great Wall of China we realized that it considerably surpassed all our previous bases for comparison. [passage omitted]

In Guangzhou we visited a factory and workers' apartments and talked with workers. We were glad to hear from that their living conditions had improved.

We were given the opportunity to visit the Shenzhen special economic zone. There are four such regions in China: Zhuhai, Shantou, Xiamen, and Shenzhen. They are special channel for the development of economic cooperation with the outside world.

These economic regions are on PRC territory. The enlistment and use of foreign capital plays the main part in their eonomic development. The economy of the special regions, which in included in the socialist economy system of the entire country, is a complex of diverse forms of economic management represented mainly by enterprises based on joint Chinese and foreign capital.

The Shenzhen region is developing rapidly. Preparation for its construction began in 1979. Now the backbone of a modern city with straight streets, a modern airport, tourist bases, department stores, stores, restaurants, and hotels has already been constructed here...

Visiting the museum of the outstanding revolutionary Sun Yat-sen, we were convinced yet again of the bright depths in which the roots of our peoples' friendship originate. And whoever we met with -- worker, peasant, teacher, doctor, or writer -- they all talked to us as though we were old friends. [passage omitted]

MPR STATEMENT ON USSR TROOP WITHDRAWAL CITED

LD160534 Moscow TASS in English 0346 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Ulaanbaatar January 15 TASS -- Montsame News Agency today released a statement by the government of the Mongolian People's Republic (MPR) in view of the withdrawal of one motorized rifle division in its full strength and several separate units from the contingent of Soviet troops temporarily stationed in Mongolia back to the Soviet Union due to take place next April through June.

The MPR Government points out that this action of good will proceeds from the principled peaceful course of the MPR and the USSR of strengthening the foundations of peace and stability in Asia and around the world. It represents a new practical step aimed at realizing large-scale and constructive Soviet initiatives formulated in the speech by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in Vladivostok. It has as its goal to create the basis for a comprehensive system of peace and international security in the vast Asian-Pacific region.

The government of the Mongolian People's Republic is deeply convinced that this act of good will will help promote mutual understanding and trust, the relations of goodneighbourliness and cooperation among the countries and peoples of the Asian continent.

The MPR and the whole of the Mongolian people express once again their sincere gratitude to the Soviet servicemen who discharged with honour their international duty, vigilantly guarded and continue to guard shoulder to shoulder with the servicemen of the Mongolian people's army the independence and socialist gains of the MPR.

RELATIVES VISIT RUSSIAN GRAVES IN JAPAN

PM150915 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Dec 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by own correspondent S. Agafonov: "Paying Their Respects"]

[Text] Tokyo -- A Soviet tourist group has been in Japan for a week. Its arrival attracted great interest among the media and among official organizations.

It is the first group of Soviet citizens to go to the Land of the Rising Sun to visit the graves of Russian officers and men who died in captivity following the 1904-1905 Russian-Japanese war.

In July an accord was reached between our countries allowing groups of Japanese to visit relatives' graves in the USSR and Soviet groups to visit Russian graves in Japan without needing visas. In August and September, 3 Japanese groups, 76 people in all, visited the Soviet Union; now the reciprocal visit is made.

The Soviet group visited the cities of Nagasaki, Matsuyama, and Izumiotsu, where there are Russian graves. There were meetings with representatives of the local authorities and mayors of the cities. It was very warmly received everywhere. The Japanese press gave the Soviet group's trip detailed coverage and noted that such visits help to improve relations between the two countries.

Russian people are buried in many places in Japan: Hakodate, Shimoda, Heda, Takasaki and Funabashi... The earliest Russian graves date from the 1850's, when the first contacts were made between Russia and Japan. After the signing of the Russian-Japanese treaty in 1858, ships of the Russian Navy were permitted to make regular calls at certain Japanese ports. [paragraph continues]

The most regular port of call was Nagasaki, where the crews of Russian ships would spend several months at a time waiting for the ice to clear in the Vladivostok roadstead. In fact, Nagasaki has the biggest Russian cemetery, where there are more than 1,000 graves. Sailors from the schooner "Diana," on which Admiral Ye.V. Putyatin sailed to Japan on a friendship mission, the heroes of Tsushima, and soldiers of Port Arthur lie there.

Decades have passed, but the Russian graves are carefully tended. As a senior priest at the Goshinji Buddhist monastery, in the grounds of which the Yoshiaki Kiju cemetery is located, told me, this care is not just an expression of the traditional respect Japanese have for the memory of the dead, but it is also evidence of the sincere feelings of fellowship they have for the people of a neighboring country.

JAPANESE PAPER'S 'PROVOCATIVE' REPORT REFUTED

LD101323 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0350 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Boris Andrianov commentary]

[Text] The bourgeois press adores sensations, and in this respect Japanese press is no exception. However, as the saying goes, there are sensations and there are sensations. One can, if one really wants to, put over with gusto a report on a man biting a dog. But in such a case, the reason for publishing such material is undoubtedly important: Was the aim to arouse compassion for our lesser brothers, or, on the contrary, to prove the human individual's right to self-defense?

Our radio listeners should not be surprised at the somewhat unusual start to this commentary. This was promoted by a report which literally astounded its readers. The Japanese newspaper YOMIURI presented it as a stunning sensation. What was it that this publication, so influential in Japan, was reporting? I shall cite just individual parts of the newspaper publication.

They say that Japan will lose 40 percent of the personnel of its Armed Forces; two-thirds of all its fighter aircraft; almost three-fourths of its tanks and antitank weaponry; almost half of its destroyers; and about one third of its civilian shipping. And that is not all. Within about 3 months, the northern part of the island of Hokkaido will be occupied, and after another 3 months Japan will lose control over its sea communications. Both the figures cited and the aforementioned time schedules do indeed produce the impression of the colossal losses which allegedly threaten the land of the rising sun. But in what event could all this happen? In the reply to this question is concealed the chief, fundamental meaning of the -- if I may put it thus -- sensation published by YOMIURI.

All this will take place -- it turns out -- when the Soviet Union suddenly attacks Japan. Let us leave for the moment the reasons for the appearance of such a provocative conjecture; all the more so in that certain circles in official Tokyo have long been engaged in whipping up fear in the Japanese islands about the mythical Soviet military threat. They are using all possible means to try and portray our country in the guise of some sort of aggressive monster which, they say, is thinking night and day of naught but how to swallow up defenseless Japan as rapidly as possible. These attempts, however, are totally unfounded. The clear and honest policy of the Soviet Union, which in word and deed demonstrates its sincere aspiration to have peaceful, good-neighborly relations with Japan and to establish with it economic relations on the basis of cooperation and mutual benefits, is confirmation of this.

As for publications like that which has appeared in YOMIURI, these undoubtedly cloud the atmosphere of Soviet-Japanese relations and, of course, in no way serve the national interests of the people of Japan itself.

DRA'S NAJIB ADDRESSES 2D NATIONAL FRONT CONGRESS

LD151503 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1328 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Kabul, 15 Jan (TASS) -- The second congress of the DRA National Fatherland Front [NFF] is continuing its work here. Speaking at its first session were delegates of the congress and foreign guests. Representatives of Bulgaria, Nicaragua, and the WFTU expressed their solidarity with the struggle of the Afghan people for peace and social progress, as well as their wishes for success in the cause of national reconciliation in the country.

Najib, PDPA general secretary, spoke at the congress.

The present NFF congress, he said, is a sociopolitical event of critical significance for the life of the country. The NFF is closely associated with the development of crucial social processes which will determine the destiny of the Afghan people and will be a turning point in the history of Afghanistan.

The creation and activities of the National Fatherland Front is a great gain of the revolutionary people and the April Revolution. Afghan history does not know any other mass and prestigious organizaiton such as this. Over the 5 years that have elapsed since the first congress, the general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee pointed out, the NFF has made major steps on the path to unity and cohesion of the national patriotic forces and their social organizations. In the difficult conditions of the undeclared war, notwithstanding the encroachments of imperialism and regional reaction, the NFF has managed to set up about 4,000 councils [sovetov] in towns and villages and played quite a considerable role in implementing revolutionary transformations.

An extraordinary, enlarged plenum of the PDPA Central Committee has recently taken place. It concentrated the efforts of the entire party and people for the practical realization of the national reconciliation program. This is the most topical, the most urgent issue of party policy. The principles of reconciliation are simple and understandable by everyone. They are specified in the declaration of the DRA Revolutionary Council and in documents of the Higher Extraordinary Commission for National Reconciliation in Afghanistan.

Having put forward a program of national reconciliation, our party shows in words and actions its deep interest in its realization, and for the sake of this is ready to cooperate with all patriotic forces. We are ready for direct, honest, and mutually-acceptable dialogue, for reasonable compromise. We approach the attainment of national reconciliation from positions of political realism and flexibility. We see not only the urgent, vital necessity of national reconciliation but also its real possibility. Now the revolutionary power, stressed Najib, is stronger than ever before. It rests upon the political system, created by the revolution, which organizes millions of people. It rests upon the state, which is capable of defending itself, and its implementing economic and social transformations in the interests of the people. It rests upon the revolutionary solidarity and assistance of Afghanistan's reliable friends -- the Soviet Union, other socialist states, nonaligned countries, and all progressive forces in the world. The course for national reconciliation is an indication of the revolutionary gains in the name of a better future for the people and the country.

National reconciliation answers the hopes of all the people. They realize that the self-destruction of the Afghans and the disasterous ruination of the country in the course of the war is of benefit only to the Afghans' worst enemies.

National reconciliation is our people's destiny. There is no alternative to it. Afghanistan must become, and shall become, a common home for all its compatriots, wherever they may be living today.

The initiated process of struggle for national reconciliation is of vitally important significance not only for our country. The whole world is now watching the events in Afghanistan. Reaction to these events has become a mighty watershed between the friends of the Afghan people and their enemies. In the difficult struggle for the achievement of national accord and peace in our country, we are relying on the fraternal assistance and revolutionary solidarity of the great Soviet Union and other socialist countries. These issues were at the center of the talks with the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and other Soviet leaders during our visit to Moscow, and also during the visit to Afghanistan of Comrades E.A. Shevardnadze and A.F. Dobrynin. These talks were evidence of a complete coincidence of the sides' views on the strategy and tactics of reconciliation.

In seeking to speed up a political settlement around Afghanistan, the USSR returned to the homeland six regiments of the limited troop contingent which is in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan at our government's request. The USSR and the DRA have come to an agreement that they will assist the creation of favorable conditions for the complete withdrawal to the homeland of Soviet troop units.

I want to stress that the subsequent actions of the USSR and the DRA depend directly on the steps taken in response by the opposing sides. From those who imposed the war on the people and who are organizing armed interference in the DRA's affairs, we expect common sense and first of all a cessation of all kinds of aggression against our country from outside with the granting of international guarantees for its non-resumption. It is appropriate to remind once again those supporting and financing the underclared war that in the event of a continuation of the intervention against the DRA, the Soviet Union will not leave us in the lurch. Our northern neigbor is invariably advocating a nonaligned, independent, neutral, sovereign Afghanistan which can freely utilize its resources and all its riches, Najib pointed out. Such a position meets the national interests of all real Afghan patriots. The USSR's position is a component part of the tough struggle which the Soviet Union wages for the right of the peoples to decide their own destinies, for peace, and for averting the threat of thermonuclear catastrophe.

Today, Najib pointed out, is the anniversary of the publication of the historic declaration by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, containing the program for liquidating nuclear weapons by the end of this century and the building of a nuclear-free world. We fully support this peace program, which is in the interests of all mankind.

The implementation of practical measures for national reconciliation, Najib continued, will be a strict test of the firmness of the entire political system of the society created by the revolution. The organization of work of extraordinary commissions for national reconciliation, the conducting of peace jirgas and talks with armed groups, the drawing of people into peaceful work, and many other urgent questions have to be consistently at the center of attention of councils and the entire aktiv of the NFF. Drive and maximum understanding of the needs and concerns of the people are needed for their solution. It is necessary to act more boldly in villages, to improve the work with tribal people, who understand correctly the national reconciliation cause, who are true patriots, and who have to be drawn into the cause. Patriotic mullahs and ulemas, judges, doctors, teachers, tribal leaders and other people who enjoy the genuine respect of the people have to be drawn into the composition of leading organs of the NFF -- this is a priority task.

Questions of strengthening of the country's economy, the development of the social sphere and the improvement of people's lives are in the center of attention of the party, the Afghan leader said. Development of the economy will help to solve many questions connected with the raising of people's living standards. Measures for the regulation of land relations in villages must also be worked out.

Further, Najib dwelt on the tasks conected with the restructuring of the work of the NFF. The Front, he said, must be open to all: Both to those who have been deceived by the enemy or are not in agreement with the aims of the revolution but consider themselves patriots of Afghanistan, and to those organizations and groups which do not recognize the platform of the PDPA. There is at present a lack of boldness and persistence in attracting such opposition forces to the Front. The NFF has not yet become the uniting center for all its collective members.

Touching on relations between the PDPA ad the NFF, the Afghan leader noted that there must be a fraternal alliance between a political party and a social-political organization which are guided by the common desire to achieve peace in the country, to guarantee the progress of Afghan society, and to securely establish an independent, democratic Afghanistan. The PDPA Central Committee does not direct the work of the NFF Central COmmittee and does not interfere in its affairs.

There is no doubt that, with the expansion of the NFF's powers, better conditions and possibilities for enhancing its role and for neutral and opposition political elements and groups to join it will be created. This will assist the development of political consolidation in the country, Najib stressed. He called mass political and educational work among the people in the spirit of patriotism and internationalism, work on strengthening Afghan-Soviet friendship, and on the mobilization of the people to fight against the enemies of the revolution and to build a new society one of the mostd important spheres of the NFF's activity. Tackling these tasks must make up the basis of the work of the NFF councils.

Najib further pointed out that Afghans who want to return home from abroad will be given free aid in arrangeing the meeting of their everyday needs [v ustroystve byta], in organizing the teaching of their children, and in their return to work on their native land. They will be granted considerable benefits. In this connection, he supported the NFF's proposal for the setting up of a special fund for giving assistance to the refugees.

At the present time, Najib continued, the draft decree of the DRA Revolutionary Council on a general amnesty in connection with the cease-fire is under discussion.

Imperialist influence aimed at preventing the restoration of peace in Afghanistan must be countered with a whole system of measures of an agitation and propaganda nature. It is important to carry out this work in all districts, to bring it to the villages, to involve in this work religious figures, tribal representatives who enjoy authority, and the public aktaiv.

It is the task of the NFF, the Afghan leader continued, to explain the meaning and essence of the revolution, the particular nature of its currents stage, to show the rights and opportunities which the revolution has granted to the worker, the peasant, the artisan, the national merchant, and businessman.

The second congress of the NFF, Najib concluded, graphically reflects the revolutionary enthusiasm and high sense of responsibility of the patriotic forces for the destiny of the people, for the future of the country. In close unity of all national patriotic forces -- herein lies the inexhaustible source of prosperity of our beloved homeland, the happiness of the noble and freedom-loving Afghan people, of a lasting peace on long-suffering Afghan soil.

The congress continues.

DRA'S NFF CHAIRMAN CALLS FOR RECONCILIATION

LD141738 Moscow TASS in English 1652 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Kabul January 14 TASS -- "We must and will expand the structure of the National Fatherland Front (NFF). There is room in it for all political forces, including for new ones which express readiness to join the NFF during the reconciliation", said Abdorrahim Hatef, chairman of the NFF Central Council. He delivered a report today at the second NFF Congress.

"Work on organizing and implementing national reconciliation should pervade all directions of our activity. The state, the new power offer peace and concord to their opponents. But it is the NFF councils, the exponents of the needs and aspirations of the popular masses, that are to effect reconciliation and be a mediator in this cause. Reconciliation is possible only within the framework of the NFF. Reconciliation will not work without the NFF".

"Over the past years, front representatives largely contributed toward talks with the armed groups, persuading them to come over to the side of the people's government, and toward agreements and treaties with many tribes, their chiefs and elders", Hatef went on.

"We have accumulated certain experience, which should be developed. We can be proud of the fact that thousands of people deceived by the enemies into the dushman gangs have come to the side of the revolutionary state as a result of the work done by the front's councils.

"Some 450 peace jirgas were held to consolidate this work. The jirgas discussed matters related to achieving national accord", Hatef said.

"Up to this time 60 commissions to organize patriotic activities of theologians and the clergy have been set up in line with reconciliation work and for the purpose of drawing the noble and patriotic clergy and prominent theologians into cooperation with people's power. A total of 1,560 prominent clergymen were invited to work on them. The NFF councils promoted pilgrimage to sacred places, Mecca and Medina for every faithful Muslim. This is also our countribution to achieving concord, to satisfaction of interests and requirements of each person and to the strengthening of the sacred religion of Islam.

"We stand for independent and sovereign Afghanistan which is the master of its resources. This is the reality which dreads imperialists who take pains to make the difficulties encountered by our people, which are not small as they are, still more grave. Their inhuman goal is constantly to increase the heavy casualties and immense financial losses which we suffer as a result of the war forced on us.

"They exert every effort to rev up the vile and false propaganda campaign, do everything to prevent a peaceful and progressive development of our homeland.

"The most recent example: Following the extraordinary session of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) Central Committee, the declaration by the DRA Revolutionary Council and the session of the Supreme Extraordinary Commission on National Reconciliation, many Afghans staying in Pakistan heartened up and began preparing for returning home.

"However, opponents of reconciliation used force to prevent them from going back home. The camps where the so-called refugees live a life of misery and humiliation are encircled by Pakistani troops. Forty families enroute to Afghanistan were detained by force of arms on January 6 in the area of Gushba. Here is the example of the inhuman policy.

DRA FATHERLAND FRONT CHANGES NAME, ADJOURNS

LD151750 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1632 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Kabul, 15 Jan (TASS) -- The second congress of the DRA National Fatherland Front ended its work here today.

The delegates unanimously confirmed a new title of this public and political organization: The DRA National Front. The congress adopted the messages of the DRA National Front to the UN Secretary General, to the compatriots who are abroad, and to the peoples of the region and the whole world.

It is necessary to consider the safeguarding of peace, security, and national reconciliation one of the most important tasks of National Front in present conditions, says the decision of the congress, which was unanimously approved by the delegates.

The doors of the National Front have to be open to all who wish to enter -- groups ond organizations -- notes the decision. It is necessary to participate in the most active way in organizing and implementing "peace jirgas" in the kishlaks, districts, and provinces, working tirelessly in extraordinary commissions of national reconciliation on all levels, undertaking effective measures for the improvement of conditions of life, and cooperative actively with the leaders and drawing them to the work in the councils of the Front. Mobilization of patriots for strengthening of the country's defense capability remains an important task of the Front.

The DRA National Front is committed to directing all efforts toward the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development and the implementation of the first 5-year plan. Further widening of international contacts, and also the work with compatriots who are for various reasons abroad, represent important directions of the Front's work.

The second National Front Congress calls on all compatriots to support its decisions and unite for the sake of implementing the historical task of halting fratricidal war and achieving peace and accord in the country, says the decision.

The delegates to the congress elected the Central Council of the DRA National Front which is comprised of more than 2,200 representatives from all social strata and population groups of all nationalities and tribes of Afghanistan. Abdorrahim Hatef was elected chairman of the Central Council of the DRA National Front.

DRA MINISTERS HOLD NEWS CONFERENCE IN KABUL

LD160114 Moscow TASS in English 0006 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Kabul January 15 TASS -- A news conference was held in Kabul today for local and foreign journalists who arrived there to cover the proceedings of the second congress of the DRA National Front and the beginning of the reconciliation process.

It is highly symptomatic that today's meeting coincided with the anniversary of the historic statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central committee, Gholam Sarwar Juresh, deputy foreign minister of Afghanistan [name and title as received] said opening the news conference.

This statement set out a concrete and clear programme of ridding mankind of the threat of nuclear catastrophe, of guaranteeing lasting peace and security on earth, he said.

At twelve hours on the night from January 14 to 15 the DRA armed forces unilaterally ceased fire from all types of weapons and suspended combat operations. So, shooting has not rung out from our side for 16 hours and we have actually started the implementation of the national reconciliation programme, Juresh said.

In the conditions when the national reconciliation policy is being effected, the tasks of tremendous importance were set to the army, said Major-General Mohammad Rafi, national defence minister of Afghanistan. The army divisions and units suspended combat operations and returned to points of their permanent dislocation.

Simultaneously, measures were taken to tighten the security of borders, communications, state and military facilities, reliably to escort columns with national economic cargoes. Together with the Interior and State Security Ministries the army ensures the security of refugees returning to areas of their residence.

Besides, the army takes an active part in extending gratis material aid to the population, in repairing roads, houses, schools and mosques, in expanding other economic and construction work in the interests of the people.

At the same time, measures were taken to ensure high vigilance and the combat readiness of troops with a view to preventing possible provocations on the part of enemy armed groups who came out in the open against the state. Some groups have already ceased fire and gone over to the side of the government. Evidently, this process will be continued in the future as well.

According to the figures released by the Defence Ministry, Mohammad Rafi said, the armed resistance forces now number 1,300 groups involving a total of 100,000 people, of whom 70,000 are active participants in the war. Fifty groups are engaged in logistic support.

We can say with full confidence that Afghanistan's working masses give unqualified support to the policy of national reconciliation, said Ghulam Faruq Yaqubi, state security minister of Afghanistan. Rank-and-file members of various Islamic parties and organisations also vigorously favour the ceasefire and the earliest return to the homeland.

Virtually all refugees in camps in the territories of Pakistan and Iran come out for an end to bloodshed and an immediate return to their native parts. This is borne out by numerous facts; this becomes a tendency. We are prepared to give all kinds of aid to them in achieving this rightful wish.

As we know, the Pakistani authorities impede in every way refugees' return home. Camps of Afghan refugees located along the entire length of Durand are currently encircled by Pakistani Army troops which block by force of arms the return of our fellow citizens to their homeland.

Each revolution has its own counter-revolution, said Sayyed Mohammad Golabzoy, DRA interior minister. And various methods are employed to fight counter-revolution: military, political and administrative ones.

Political prisoners are not a uniformed mass. Among them are persons who committed crimes due to lack of understanding, being tricked by hostile propaganda. Among them are also those who at the start of the revolution failed to get their bearings in the political situation.

But there are persons among political prisoners who stained their hands with the blood of the Afghan people. A decree on amnesty is being drawn up now. After this decree is enforced, those persons will remain in prisons who perpetrated the gravest crimes against the people.

Responding to a question on the curfew, Sayyed Mohammad Golabzoy said that at the request of the city residents the curfew would be cut to four hours and it will be totally lifted if the situation allows it.

Had it not been for interference in our affairs by the United States and Pakistan, peace would have long since been established in our country and our old men, women and children would have not been suffering, Mohammad Rafi said at the end of the news conference.

DRA DEFENSE MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON CEASE-FIRE

PM151449 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Jan 87 First Edition p 3

[Own correspondent Major A. Oliynik interview with DRA Defense Minister Major General Mohammad Rafi: "Course of National Reconciliation" -- date and place unspecified; first paragraph is KRASNAYA ZVEZDA introduction]

[Text] On 15 January the DRA Armed Forces will unilaterally cease fire throughout Afghan territory in accordance with the implementation of the policy of nationwide reconciliation adopted at the extraordinary enlarged PDPA Central Committee Plenum. Here is what DRA Defense Minister Major General Mohammad Rafi, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, said in conversation with KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Major A. Oliynik:

Today the Afghan Army, people's militia units, and other DRA militarized formations will unilaterally stop firing all weapons and halt combat operations. In accordance with the directive issued by the Defense Ministry and the chief of the DRA Army Main Political Directorate, troops will return to their permanent bases and switch to peacetime standing orders. The personnel will improve their military skills on the training ground and in classroom exercises and engage in planned combat and political training.

One of the Army's main tasks is to work among the population to explain the party's peace-loving policy and the goals and principles of national reconciliation. Each garrison has been assigned a so-called responsibility zone, in which staff propagandists and the best trained officers and men will carry out explanatory work. Propaganda detachments organized by the Main Political Directorate have now set off for the country's "hottest spots."

Formation and unit commanders received firm instructions in the directive -- to show restraint and not succumb to possible provocations. Needless to say, this does not mean that the unilateral cease-fire will allow the counterrevolution to continue sowing death and destruction on our soil. Those who do not stop the terror and attack peaceful villages will be crushingly rebuffed anywhere in Afghanistan. The high combat readiness and vigilance of Afghan Army units is confirmation of that.

The policy of national reconciliation has met with ardent support from most Afghans, including those who for one reason or another are abroad. The number of emigre families returning from abroad has now risen sharply, and they are being given housing and work. Only the other day more than 1,000 people returned from Pakistan and Iran. Under the influence of the ideas of national reconciliation, armed groups in Herat, Balkh, Baghlan, and Jowzjan Provinces and Khowst District have laid down their arms over the last few days. We know that a number of commanders of armed groups drawn from the (Dzhadran) tribe demanded that their leader, (Dzheladdin), make use of the peace-loving initiative from the people's power to ensure a mutually advantageous cease-fire and to solve urgent problems peacefully. Talks with representatives of more than 400 gangs, comprising around 37,000 people in total, are currently being conducted through the extraordinary national reconciliation commissions that have been set up everywhere.

We hope that the course of national reconciliation will be followed by other opposing forces, political leaders of the "Islamic parties," and leaders of armed formations encamped abroad. In order to jointly bring peace to the long-suffering Afghan people, they must all rise above their affiliations of class, tribe, estate, and religion. Time will show the extent of the genuine patriotism of each political leader and each Afghan.

Success in the incipient national reconciliation process would accelerate the return home of the Limited Contingent of Soviet Troops in Afghanistan. Naturally, this would be possible provided there was a guarantee of no outside interference in DRA affairs and no resumption of such interference in the future. May I take this opportunity to express sincere gratitude to the Soviet Government and all Soviet people for their selfless fraternal aid and active support for the process of nationwide reconciliation in our country.

We clearly realize that the reconciliation process will not be easy. Extremists from the counterrevolutionary camp and their foreign inspirers, headed by the United States, will do and are already doing everything to wreck this process. But the party and the revolutionary government will unswervingly follow the course of ensuring reconciliation and the normalization of the situation in the country.

The inspirational ideas of national reconciliation, Maj Gen M. Rafi said in conclusion, have our people's broad support. The bloodshed and fratricide on Afghan soil must be stopped once and for all.

DRA RECONCILIATION PRAISED; RESPONSES ASSESSED

LD150010 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 14 Jan 87

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Andrey Ptashnikov]

[Text] It turns out that in today's Diary I am mainly talking about what is to happen tomorrow. Well, what is going to happen? Tomorrow is really very rich in important events, and one of these is taking place in Afghanistan -- where the decision comes into force, which was announced earlier by the government of that country, about a 6-month cease-fire and the return of troops to their permanent bases with their simultaneous transfer to peace-time regulations. I shall ask my colleague Vladimir Fadeyev to comment on this event.

[Fadeyev] One can say without any exaggeration that the whole world is now following events in Afghanistan. And the government of that country is showing the world a specific example of how conflict situation can be resolved in our alarming and contradictory age. The proposal to the combatant sides for the cease-fire is only one of a series of points contained in the appeal for national reconciliation. I shall remind you, comrades, of a few of the others.

The Revolutionary Council and the government, as of 15 January, will permit people who have ceased active struggle against the people's power to travel freely throughout the whole territory of Afghanistan in order to visit relatives, perform religious ceremonies, and learn the truth about the aims and tasks of the April Revolution.

The Revolutionary Council officially confirms that all citizens of Aghanistan who by the will of fate have been in the camp of its enemies, or who have left the country as a result of being driven out or of being deceived, but who have recognized their patriotic duty and laid down their arms will be forgiven by the homeland. The people have declared a complete amnesty for them. An amnesty will also be declared for those persons who are serving prison sentences but who have sincerely renounced evil deeds.

All the returnees will be given all-round help, including material and medical help and also help with finding work. The provision that the holy religion of Islam is the religion of Afghanistan will be laid down in the second article of the new constitution. Finally, the people's power will strive to create a government of national unity, drawing in broad political forces even as far as making it a coalition government.

These, then, are the main proposals contained in the extensive program of national reconciliation.

Reports are coming in from Afghanistan that this governmental appeal is meeting with broad support among varied strata of the population. Meetings and assemblies are being held throughout the country. In the past few days, hundreds of Afghans who had been deceived by hostile propaganda have been returning from abroad to the provinces of Nangarhar and Herat. In that same Herat Province, a counterrevolutionary formation numbering 1,000 has ceased its armed struggle. Let me note that there are at present 417 such formations with a total membershp of 37,000 which are holding talks with the organs of people's power.

In his interview with the BAKHTAR press agency, Eduard Amvrosiyevich Shevardnadze called the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan's proposals for a truce and the start of a nationwide dialogue a brave and responsible step.

The progressive press and sober-minded observers consider that, by starting the process of national reconciliation, the people's power is also creating conditions for the return home of units of the limited contingent of Soviet troops. They stress that what is needed for this is guarantees of no external interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs and that this interference will not be resumed in the future.

However, the process which will start on 15 January, this year, depends on more than one side. Time will show what practical steps will be taken by the rebels and the imperialist and reactionary circles supporting them. True, there is already cause for concern at the position adopted on this question by the United States and Pakistan. As is known, Washington hastened to reject Kabul's proposals, describing them as a propaganda maneuver. Islamabad is in no hurry to reply, and this may be because, as the editorial in the Indian PATRIOT wrote a few days ago -- and I quote: An improvement in the internal situation in Afghanistan would not suit the military leadership of Pakistan and those people who profit from selling weapons and receiving U.S. aid. Islamabad, the newspaper goes on, has an interest in maintaining the tension around Afghanistan because the continuation of the influx of U.S. financial and military support depends on this.

Well, and how are the rebel bosses responding to the reconciliation appeal? At first they rejected it. Then they argued for a whole week among themselves, because even among some of their units there is growing understanding that it is impossible to reject such a proposal categorically. Moreover, some of the counterrevolutionary leaders, judging from reports in the British FINANCIAL TIMES, have stated that they do not wish to stand aside during discussion of the question of the nature and composition of the provisional Afghan government of national reconciliation. Time will also show how serious this is. For it is well known that among the counterrevolutionary groupings there are many disagreements, and this influences the sober reply expected from them to the peace appeal of Afghanistan.

INDIAN EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER VISIT ANNOUNCED

LD160939 Moscow TASS in English 2101 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] New Delhi January 15 TASS -- India's Minister of State for External Affairs K. Natwar Singh will leave on January 18 for a three-day visit to the USSR. The visit is part of the implementation of arrangements reached during an official friendly visit to India by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev.

The visit by India's minister of state for external affairs was announced by a spokesman for the Indian Ministry of External Affairs at a meeting with Indian and foreign journalists today. The spokesman said that during the visit Natwar Singh will hold talks with Soviet leaders on questions of bilateral relations and the international situation.

The UNITED NEWS OF INDIA notes in this connection that alongside the discussion of the present state of Indian-Soviet economic and technological ties the discussion of the problems of disarmament and the situation in world economics will hold an important place at the talks.

GROMYKO PRESENTS AWARD TO GDR ENVOY WINKELMANN

PM151704 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Jan 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Soviet Order for the GDR Ambassador"]

[Text] A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received Egon Winkelmann, GDR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the USSR, in the Kremlin on 7 January, and presented him with a high state award of the Soviet Union -- the Order of Friendship of the Peoples. E. Winkelmann is ending his work in the USSR and returning home.

Presenting the award, A.A. Gromyko said:

It gives me great pleasure to carry out the instructions of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Soviet Government and present the Order of the Friendship of Peoples to you. This high award is conferred on you for your active work to strengthen friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and the GDR. You have represented the fraternal GDR in our country for 6 years. We have come to know you well, and value you highly as a person who has done much to ensure that relations between our countries continue to develop upward.

Much could, of course, be said about our relations. I remember the time when together we were conducting a struggle for the broadest possible recognition of the GDR in the international arena. Our people and yours were confident that this broad recognition would come, that this would inevitably happen, as the sun will inevitably rise tomorrow morning. It certainly will rise. And that is what happened -- the GDR is widely recognized in the world.

At international forums, including the widest forums, within the United Nations, we wage a struggle together for peace among peoples.

As for bilateral relations, in all areas the level of these relations is not only high, but is constantly rising. This applies both to the political sphere, and to economic ties, to scientific, technical, and cultural cooperation, and to contacts in every conceivable area of the relationship between fraternal countries.

I would like to take this opportunity to stress particularly the significance of the contacts which have become established between Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and Comrade Erich Honecker. Their meetings have made and continue to make a profound impression on the development of our relations.

We have every reason to say that today cooperation between the USSR and the GDR means a high level of multifaceted ties between the CPSU and the SED and the state organs and public organizations of our countries.

We advocate, as we have always advocated, the closest fraternal relations with the GDR, based on the principles of mutual respect, confidence, and equality.

As for foreign policy, there is every reason to state that in the struggle for peace and the elimination of the threat of nuclear war, we and the other fraternal countries have marched and continue to march together, firmly arm in arm.

The coordinated foreign policy course of the fraternal socialist countries incorporates profoundly the Leninist ideas of peace and friendship among peoples. Concrete confirmation of this is provided by the active participation of the fraternal countries in the struggle for the implementation of the Soviet peace initiatives and the proposals of the Warsaw Pact states. This struggle for peace must be stepped up, and very great efforts will still be needed, because we are opposed in the international arena by influential militarist circles.

As before, our joint task is the defense of socialism's gains in Europe and the rebuttal of those who would like to rewrite history and erase the postwar territorial and political realities on the continent. Respect for and unconditional observance of these realities by everyone is the guarantee of peace and tranquility in Europe, and not only in Europe.

Please accept, Comrade Winkelmann, cordial congratulations on this high, well-earned award. In his reply speech the GDR ambassador said:

On behalf of the GDR Government, the collectives of the embassy, the trade mission, the intergovernmental commission, and the GDR mission to CEMA, and on behalf of the many thousands of GDR citizens who live, work, and study in the USSR, I would like to thank you cordially for the award of the Order of the Friendship of Peoples to me.

I regard this honor as recognition that in the spirit of the decisions of the 10th and 11th SED Congresses our collectives have done much work to strengthen friendship and cooperation between our two countries. In the presence of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in April last year Erich Honecker once again reaffirmed, from the platform of the 11th SED Congress, the immutability of the fraternal alliance with the CPSU and the USSR -- that great revolutionary asset. "This alliance," he said, "is the foundation of our successes, the vital cause of our entire people."

The friendship between the GDR and the USSR has become a vital cause for all our citizens working at contruction sites in the Soviet Union and studying in Soviet VUZ's.

The scope of the cooperation and collaboration between many sectors of the GDR and USSR national economies is unique. Our countries have embarked on the implementation of major joint plans outlined in the long-term program for the devlopment to bilateral cooperation through the year 2000. This cooperation is based increasingly on joint reserach and production sharing. This joint work covers nearly every sector of the national economy.

On the occasion of this high assessment of our work, permit me to assure you, esteemed Andrey Andreyevich, and all the Soviet leadership that the GDR, allied closely with the Soviet Union and all the fraternal countries, has stood and will stand unswervingly on the side of those forces which are fully determined to remove from mankind the threat of nuclear catastrophe.

The award presentation was attended by T.N. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; R.P. Fedorov, deputy chief of a CPSU Central Committee section; V.P. Loginov, USSR deputy foreign minister; and other officials. Also present were staffers of the GDR embassy and trade mission in the USSR, and of the GDR permanent mission to CEMA.

After the award presentation a conversation took place between A.A. Gromyko and E. Winkelmann, in a friendly atmosphere. Taking part were V.P. Loginov and Siegfried Koerner, extraordinary envoy and plenipotentiary minister at the GDR Embassy in the USSR.

PRAVDA REPORTS ON COOPERATION WITH SFRY

PM150957 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Jan 87 First Edition p 4

[Report by own correspondent V. Sharov: "USSR-SFRY: Looking Ahead"]

[Excerpts] Belgrade -- A night spent on the Belgrade-Ljubl-jana train, 90 minutes by automobile in the morning frost, and a snow-covered city was revealed before us in the Alpine foothills. It was Celje.

We had been brought here by a report that the local "Klima" plant, which supplies the USSR with equipment for meat combines, had completed its contract commitment for the previous year and wanted to expand its ties with its Soviet partners.

"The results of the official friendly visit to the Soviet Union by the LCY delegation met with the full support of the plant workers," its director, Alojz (Zhupants), said. [passage omitted on Soviet-SFRY trade]

The LCY delegation's official friendly visit to the Soviet Union has provided an opportunity for both sides to outline further paths for the advancement of Soviet-Yugoslav relations. The Yugoslav press notes with satisfaction that those taking part in the talks in Moscow assessed highly the level achieved in bilateral cooperation and concentrated their attention on questions of expanding and deepening it. As the daily KOMMUNIST, the organ of the LCY, wrote, broad prospects for collaboration are opened up in all fields.

The conclusion reflected in the joint communique has met with full support in Yugoslavia: The future belongs to the use of modern forms like long-term production sharing and specialization, business contacts between economic organizations, joint capital investments, direct ties between enterprises, and cooperation in key fields of science and technology. The USSR and the SFRY, Yugoslav observers note, have rich opportunities for implementing these accords.

The Soviet Union and Yugoslavia have already accumulated definite experience in this field. Sharing in the production of Lada passenger automobiles, Kama Truck Plant trucks, excavators, and equipment for atomic power stations is producing considerable results. Relying on the experience of the past, the two countries must now take a new step forward.

Many proposals on this score are coming from Yugoslav enterprises and firms. The sphere of common interests includes automobile building, chemical output, light industry articles, and the Agro-industrial complex. In brief, there is food for though for the two countries' relevant organizations. The talks in Moscow direct us toward accelerating all this work.

It is believed in Yugoslavia that the results of the visit open up good prospects for cooperation in science and technology. Here too a course has been steered toward modern forms of collaboration.

"We are interested in active participation in the Comprehensive Program of Scientific and Technical Progress adopted by the CEMA countries and geared to the period through 2000," Bozidar Matic, chairman of the recently created federal committee on science, said at a meeting with journalists.

And I was convinced in Zenica that this interest is great. The SFRY's largest research center in the field of ferrous metallurgy -- the institute named for People's Hero of Yugoslavia Kasan Brkic -- is situated here. [paragraph continues]

Its director, Doctor of Technical Sciences (Salim) Tarabar, announced that the scientists have to their credit 1,500 completed works, and many of them have been introduced into production and are producing a considerable economic effect. (S.) Tarabar links the collective's successful activity in particular with the close contacts which the institute has established with colleagues from different countries. The director made special mention of research to improve the qualitative specifications of low-alloy steels conducted jointly with the Moscow Central Scientific Research Institute of Ferrous Metallurgy. "We have passed on a proposal on participation in the CEMA countries' Comprehensive Program of Scientific and Technical Progress. That is our response to the Moscow talks," the director said in conclusion.

At the talks in Moscow a substantial place was taken by the question of the exchange of experience of social development. Favorable conditions exist for such exchange. The SFRY is giving a positive reception to the process of restructuring and renewal of all spheres of sociopolitical and economic life in the Soviet Union. The USSR has great sympathy for the efforts which the Yugoslav working people are making under the LCY's leadership to stabilize the economy, improve the people's welfare, and consolidate their multinational socialist state.

The SFRY press particularly highlighted that part of M.S. Gorbachev's Kremlin speech which contained the reminder of V.I. Lenin's prediction that life would show the gigantic diversity of forms and methods of building the new society, and which stated that no one party has a certificate of absolute truth, that it is essential to display a respectful, interested attitude toward each other's quest and experience. The importance is being emphasized of the mass media's broad and objective coverage of the efforts which are being made in socialist building in both countries.

In Moscow there was also an in-depth exchange of opinions on a broad range of international problems. There was a discussion of questions of vital importance for mankind and for our countries: of ways of strengthening peace and international security. Turning to the communique which was adopted, the Yugoslav press reported that the head of the SFRY delegation had expressed his recognition of and support for the Soviet Union's initiatives in favor of peace talks, disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, the prevention of the militarization of space, and the halting of nuclear weapons tests. There was a response to the words of the CPSU Central Committee general secretary, who voiced the conviction that the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia will collaborate increasingly harmoniously and effectively in questions of creating a nuclear-free world safe for all.

As is well known, the results of the talks between the CPSU and LCY delegation were examined at sessions of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and the LCY Central Committee Presidium, and a high assessment was given to the results of the talks. "A considerable contribution to the development of friendly relations between the LCY and the CPSU; and the SFRY the USSR" was how the LCY Central Committee described the visit and its results.

At the CPSU Central Committee Politburo note was made of the major importance of the Soviet-Yugoslav talks for the deepening of mutual understanding and trust between the two parties. Political preconditions have been created for the further steady development of Soviet-Yugoslav relations and their enrichment with modern forms of the consolidation of cooperation between the USSR and the SFRY in the struggle for a nuclear-free world and the solution of the other global problems facing mankind.

The party organizations and labor collectives of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia have received a clear, precise program of actions. A large amount of systematic work is now under way to implement it in the interests of the two countries' peoples and the cause of peace and socialism.

SHEVARDNADZE RECEIVES UK OFFICIAL RENTON

LD151903 Moscow TASS in English 1847 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 15 TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze today received Timothy Renton, minister of state, Foreign and Commonwealth Office of Great Britain, now in Moscow for the participation in the Soviet-British political consultations arranged by the Soviet Foreign Ministry and the British Foreign Office.

During an open businesslike conversation Eduard Shevardnadze and Timothy Renton assessed the international situation that has developed after Mikhail Gorbachev advanced exactly a year ago a large-scale initiative aimed at ridding humanity of the burden of nuclear and other arms. [Moscow TASS English 151842, in a brief report on Shevardnadze meeting Renton, refers to their "frank and business-like talk."] A fundamental talk was held on how the sides, in the light of the Soviet-U.S. Reykjavik meeting, view the role and place of European states in the world-wide struggle against the nuclear menace, in the drastic restructuring of international relations on an all-embracing basis of equal and reliable security for all and equitable peaceful cooperation.

The Soviet side emphasized that the policy of those Western circles that in their dangerous delusion still hope to achieve unilateral advantages by the use of force to the detriment of the interests of other peoples has no future and can only doom civilisation to an impasse of confrontation and mutual deterrence that is fraught with catastrophe. The Soviet side expressed the hope that Great Britain, to a dialogue with which the Soviet Union attaches much importance, will be equal to the responsibility of a great power, will show genuine striving to help curb the arms race, improve the climate in relations among states and peoples.

The sides declared for a more dynamic and steady development of bilateral ties in various spheres, for manifesting cooperation in fresh important deeds.

IZVESTIYA HITS KOHL 'CONCENTRATION CAMPS' REMARK

PM151450 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Jan 87 Morning Edition p 5

[S. Guk "Rejoinder": "The Chancellor Is Getting Confused..."]

[Text] FRG Chancellor H. Kohl has made another "political bow" to the right. With his statement about the existence of "concentration camps for political prisoners" in the GDR, he won applause from the local "Black Hundred" for whom the concept of "enemies" is firmly associated with "everything in the East."

Herr Kohl should know very well what concentration camps are, and not only from books, because the present chancellor's years of youth passed at a time when millions of people were herded behind barbed wire in Germany, tortured, maimed, and exterminated in the gas chambers. After the war, legions of former Nazis who maintained to the last the "loyalty of the Nibelungen" to the Third Reich found no particular difficulty in acclimatizing well to life in the FRG, assuming prominent state posts, including top government posts. This happened not without the participation of the Christian Democratic Union, the ruling party then too, of which the present chancellor has the honor to be chairman.

In the GDR, as is well known, from its very foundation people of a different kind were in power -- those who fought against the Hitlerite terror (the majority of them knew about the fascist torture chambers not only by hearsay). There, Nazism was eradicated without trace, along with all its bloody attributes, including the concentration camps. And the present head of the Bonn cabinet, who does not shrink from appearing at revanchist rallies or attending the funerals of former SS men, is clearly getting something confused here. And, what is more, he is doing so deliberately.

The phrase about concentration camps was designed first and foremost to meet the needs of the local extreme right -- the numerous, clamorous "parties," groupings, and unions. There will be elections to the Bundestag in the FRG on 25 January. Kohl and Strauss hope to butter up this category of voters.

And what about "relations with the East," whose development H. Kohl is fond of calling for on other occasions, at least verbally? Is it not clear that such sorties on the part of the chancellor can do nothing to promote that development?

Those now in power in the FRG have formed a strange conviction on this score: Never mind, it will all work out in the end. It will be forgotten. It will be smoothed out. Say what you like, they say, all the same, the East has an interest in economic ties with the FRG. So everything will settle down after this affair.

With these reassuring sentences the Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union seek to reassure the public, who are increasingly alarmed about the future of FRG's relations with its Eastern neighbors. Self-deception is, as everyone knows, one of the most unreliable things in the world. It is followed sooner or later by sobering reality.

ENVOY TO FRG ON WAYS TO REPAIR USSR-FRG RELATIONS

LD131018 Hamburg DPA in German 0922 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Bonn, 13 Jan (DPA) -- German-Soviet relations will not be improving "automatically" after the general elections, Yuliy Kvitsinskiy, the Soviet ambassador in Bonn, said in a talk with journalists on Monday evening. Rather, the diplomat expects "practical" steps in order to repair the upset relations between Bonn and Moscow.

When asked, Kvitsinskiy admitted that these practical steps would include the contents of the forthcoming government statement made in the Lower House. His government will reply to any "practical demonstration of good will." However, he was unwilling and unable to give any "suitably good advice." In the talk, Kvitsinskiy repeatedly underlined his government's desire for "constructive relations" with the Federal Republic, and emphasized his confidence in the political skillfulness of the present government leadership.

The German-Soviet climate cooled down considerably in early November 1986, when Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl, in a U.S. interview, mentioned in the same breath the Nazi Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels and the Soviet General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev. Since then Kohl has expressed his regret before the Lower House about possible misinterpretations of that interview.

FRG TO MODERNIZE SOVIET NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS

AU111542 Paris AFP in English 1526 GMT 11 Jan 87

[Text] Bonn, Jan 11 (AFP) -- West Germany is drawing up a five-billion Deutsche mark (2.5-billion-dollar) agreement for modernising Soviet nuclear power stations, which would be one of the biggest accords ever signed between East and West, the daily BILD reports in Monday's edition.

The newspaper said that the agreement provides for improving safety standards in Soviet power stations, after the disaster at Chernobyl last April.

The United States, the newspaper said, is not enthusiastic about the agreement, fearing that it could give the Soviet Union access to the latest technology.

As the Soviet Union cannot self-finance the project, BILD said, West Germany plans to supply Moscow with two billion marks (a billion dollars) worth of uranium, and the European Economic Community would grant the Soviet Union a billion marks (500 million dollars) in credits, BILD said.

CONCLUSION OF JARUZELSKI VISIT TO ITALY REPORTED

LD142325 Moscow TASS in English 2215 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Rome January 14 TASS -- Wojciech Jaruzelski, president of the Council of State of the Polish People's Republic, ended his official three-day visit to Italy.

He held talks with Bettino Craxi, chairman of the Council of Ministers of Italy, was received by Francesco Cossigo, president of the Italian Republic, met other Italian leaders, representatives of the business community and leaders of major trade union associations.

Jaruzelski also met and talked with Alessandro Natta, general secretary of Italy's Communist Party, and Leonilde Jotti, president of the Chamber of Deputies of the Italian parliament.

Jaruzelski paid a visit to the Vatican where he was received by John Paul the Second, head of the Roman-Catholic Church, and met Agostino Casaroli, secretary of state of the Vatican.

Jaruzelski told a press conference here that in Italy he had numerous meetings. I hold that this was a successful visit and its results will produce important fruits with time, will bring about marked progress in all areas of Polish-Italian relations. We stand for the development of these relations to promote peace and detente.

All of us are seriously worried about the complicated situation in the world and on the European continent. Every effort should be exerted to put a brake on the arms race. During our talks we came to the common point of view on many issues and consider that Poland and Italy can play an active role in European affairs to the benefit of the relaxation of tensions in the world.

MORE ON ICELANDIC ENVOY'S CREDENTIALS CEREMONY

PM151645 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Jan 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Credentials Presented"]

[Text] On 13 January Tomas A. Tomasson, Icelandic ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, presented his credentials in the Kremlin to P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

P.N. Demichev and T.A. Tomasson held a friendly conversation in which they discussed certain problems of the present international situation that is taking shape under the impact of the Soviet-U.S. meeting in Reykjavik and also questions of Soviet-Icelandic relations. T.N. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and I.A. Rogachev, USSR deputy foreign minister, took part in the conversation.

RODIONOV MEETS WITH CYPRUS' KIPRIANOU IN NICOSIA

PM151835 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Jan 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Meeting Held"]

[Text] Nicosia, 13 Jan -- Cypriot President S. Kiprianou has received USSR Foreign Ministry special representative N.N. Rodionov. During their conversation there was an exchange of opinion on ways of advancing the process of a Cyprus solution based on implementing the ideas contained in the USSR proposals of 21 January 1986 on the principles of a Cyprus solution and ways of achieving it, including the proposal to convene an international conference on Cyprus within a UN framework. The meeting, which was held in a friendly atmosphere, was very useful. It was agreed that the exchange of opinion will continue. Cypriot Foreign Minister Yeoryios Iakovou and USSR Ambassador to Cyprus Yu. Ye. Fokin took part in the meeting.

BRIEFS

HEALTH COOPERATION WITH UK -- The Soviet Union and Britain have signed a health cooperation pact at the end of week-long talks in London. More from Yuriy Minayev of our staff: This pact replaces the one signed in 1975 and suspended by Britain in 1982. Under the present accord, patients from Britain and the USSR will have a chance to get emergency treatment in the other country if necessary. Leading British and Soviet specialists will conduct joint research to combat such diseases as AIDS and cancer. So far, no details are known about the coming cooperation to combat AIDS, but it is likely there will be an exchange of research data and discussions on how to check the spread of this disease. Hopefully the joint work will bring some results because the AIDS disease has been spreading extremely fast and, what is the saddest part of it, no drastic cure has yet been found. [Excerpt] [Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 2000 GMT 5 Jan 87 LD]

TOURISM TALKS WITH FINLAND -- Moscow, 4 Jan (TASS) -- The Soviet Union and Finland are beginning a new form of cooperation in tourism. Talks are under way to set up a joint enterprise for the restruction and use of hotels. In a conversation with a TASS correspondent, Igor Konovalov, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Tourism, said that Finland leads Western countries in its level of tourism to the USSR. This is increasing on average by 8-10 percent per annum, and from the beginning of the current decade, has grown by more than one-and-a-half times. Guests from Finland are visiting nearly all of the USSR's 147 tourist centers. [Summary] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1319 GMT 4 Jan 87 LD]

KARELIAN OFFICIALS PUNISHED FOR WINTER PROBLEMS

LD151522 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] The facts concerning the unsatisfactory work of the power, housing and municipal services in the winter period were examined at the session of the Karelian Obkom Bureau today. During the frosty days in January, due to the crude violation of the regulations for the use and operation of the gas and heat supply systems, the town of Kostomuksha and the Kostomuksha ore-dressing combine were left without heat for 12 hours. An explosion of an air-gas mixture and a fire in a residential block of many apartments occurred at a settlement at the Sumskiy poultry farm, leading to the death of three people. Dozens of apartments were totally destroyed. As a result of an accident, heat from the northern forestry settlement Lebozero central heat plant was not supplied for several days.

All these facts were seriously reviewed by the Karelian Obkom. Many leaders were severely punished for negligence and for a low standard of management of engineering services and for lack of discipline. Some workers were removed from their posts, expelled from the CPSU ranks and called to criminal liability. Effective and long-term measures for the elimination of the consequences of the accident were adopted. Help was rendered to the victims in order to restore normal life in the towns and settlement and the steady work of industrial and agricultural enterprises in wintertime.

PRAVDA NOTES KARELIAN ASSR GAS EXPLOSION

PM151159 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Jan 87 First Edition p 6

[Report by correspondent A. Minayev under the "With Correspondent's Commentary" rubric: "They Were Hoping for a Lucky Break"]

[Text] Kondopoga, Karelian ASSR -- Eyewitnesses describe how the 70-apartment block seemed to be wreathed in mist: Was it steam or smoke? Then it began noiselessly to tumble down. And a moment later it was shaken by a powerful blast.

What was the origin of the accident? Fierce cold had arrived in Karelia before the New Year. And on 8 January in one of the five-story apartment blocks of the Sunskiy poultry factory residential area in a suburb of Kondopoga, housewives realized they would obviously not be able to give their husbands and children a hot meal that day. The blue pilot lights in their gas cookers had started to go out.

"Surely the 40-degree frosts have not gotten to the gas main pipelines and put them out of commission?" people asked with alarm. We wonder how things are in the next apartment block?"

They checked -- everything was in order there. The cookers were working. They called the gas service from the rayon center. Two foremen from the "Kondopogaraygaz" enterprise -- Yu. Kiselev and V. Mikhaylova -- arrived. They discovered that there was a gas blockage on a small sector of the main gas pipeline. They would have to blow nitrogen through because the fuel condensate had frozen. An everyday matter. A small workload. But the searing cold caused the specialists to hurry and they skimped on a number of operations, thus grossly violating the safety regulations. They thought they would cope with the matter rapidly and took no steps to eliminate the leakage of gas, which rapidly filled the basement of the 70-apartment residential block. [paragraph continues]

The blast caused the total destruction of 32 apartments and 3 people died and 19 were wounded and injured.

The scale of the accident would have been far greater had it not been for the promptness of various services -- the firemen, militia, medical personnel, power workers, and people's militia. Within just 15 minutes seven fire engines which had come from Kondopoga wrested from the flames the half of the block which had survived the blast intact and they coped with this main task despite the fact that the ferocious frost had intercepted the water in the fire hoses. Within an hour B. Yefimov, secretary of the Karelian CPSU Obkom, and other leaders of the autonomous republic had arrived at the site of the incident and together with V. Petukhov, first secretary of the Kondopozhskiy CPSU Raykom, V. Andiranov, chairman of the Rayispolkom, A. Petrov, director of the Sunskiy poultry factory, and L. Ackasova, secretary of the poultry factory party committee, they got literally everyone and everything moving.

First the victims were hospitalized. Then the 112 people who had lost the roof over their heads were assigned temporary housing and quarters for the night. The round the clock operation of canteens and the kindergarten was organized. Teams of glaziers and carpenters worked in the foyer of the Culture Center and te poultry factory workers' hostel, situated next to the destroyed apartment block. The point was that the impact of the blast had blown out the glass not only in the apartment block itself but also in neighboring multistory blocks, in the kindergarten, and in the hostel. Power and water supplies were disrupted. But within 3 hours through the efforts of the repair workers the windows had been insulated and lighting, water, and heat had been provided.

I spoke with many people, including victims. You are struck by their powers of endurance and calm. People were convinced that everything would be done for them within the shortest possible time. And that was indeed the case. No one was left in trouble. It is something else which is perturbing: Thousands of Kondopoga inhabitants now have cold apartments and they have been obliged to use gas cookers and electricity for heating. In brief, to violate safety regulations. Why?

I have in front of me a letter which the leaders of the Karelian ASSR sent to the USSR Gosplan back in 1983. It says: "The existing housing stock and cultural and consumer projects in Kondopoga City are heated from the existing TETS of the pulp and paper combine, whose capacities have been exhausted. There is no reserve. This is having an adverse effect on the steady operation of the combine and the heating of the housing stock in the winter period."

There follows a request to allocate funds and equipment to expand the boiler house. But nearly 4 years have elapsed and no steps have been taken. To this day they are "seeking out" possibilities although dozens of new apartment blocks, kindergartens, schools, movie theaters, preventive clinics, and other projects have appeared in the city. The only thing lacking is heat. What then are the leaders of the USSR Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry hoping for? Surely not a lucky break?

KOLBIN ATTENDS ALMA-ATA WOMEN'S CONGRESS

LD151832 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 15 Jan 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast; announcer-read report over video]

[Text] A congress of the women of Kazakhstan was held in Alma-Ata today. [video shows women gathered in congress foyer; the congress in session; closing shot of Kolbin on the platform]

Much today depends upon the initiative, energy and persistence of women, primarily so that people might actually feel the benefit of real changes for the better in our lives. Today, the Women's Councils are tackling the gravest issues: Housing, the food problem, organization of commerce, consumer services; there are insufficient children's preschool establishments in the republic -- more than 130,000 applications a year from parents for kindergartens to be formed remain unsatisfied. Instances of refusal to take the sick into hospitals have still not been eradicated, and there are great omissions in the provision of medical care to children. Unfortunately, the number of families in difficulties is very great. These issues were discussed today at the congress, in which Comrade Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakhstan CP Central Committee, took part.

[video cuts to interview with M. Akhmedova, electric welder, in foyer]

[Akhmedova] As shown by the recent events that took place here in Alma-Ata, there are great deficiences in the upbringing of children and young people -- youth -- mainly in internationalist education. I would like to point out that our combine -- the house construction combine -- has recently created coordinating committees to combat the negative phenomena that are, as they say, stopping us living well and which have an evil influence on the young people. And we, the women, should be providing very great assistance in the major work that we are now embarking upon. The formation of these Women's Councils is to be of very great assistance, both to the state and to the country. I think that our women -- those taking part in the congress today and all women as whole taking part in the Women's Councils -- will make every effort to work harder and to bring order to all our affairs.

KOLBIN-CHAIRED COUNCIL PURSUES KAZAKH 'SPONGERS'

PM151235 Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 8 Jan 87 p 1

[KAZTAG report: "Resolutely Eradicating Parasitism"]

[Text] Alma-Ata's party, soviet, and law-enforcement organs are taking energetic measures to introduce proper public order in the city and clear it of persons pursuing a parasitic way of life. An effective system has started to operate for exposing spongers and bringing them strictly to book. Many have already been put to work, while those who persist in refusing to do socially useful work are being called to account to the law.

At the same time, as was observed at the latest session of the republic coordination council on combating crime, alcoholism, and unearned income, held under the chairmanship of Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee First Secretary G.V. Kolbin, work on eradicating parasitism needs to be made more offensive in character, and collaboration between law-enforcement organs and the general public needs to be stepped up. An atmosphere of nontolerance and universal condemnation must be created around spongers.

The council session set the specific task of completely clearing the republic's capital and oblast centers of spongers and other parasitic elements before 1 March this year. The legal provision according to which a sponger is someone who has not worked anywhere for a period of 4 months in 1 calendar year without a valid reason is to be taken as a guide here.

The council recommended VUZ rectors not to accept study registration documents from high-school graduates if they have not been engaged in socially useful work in the year prior to taking entrance examinations.

The republic Council of Ministers was asked to identify and call to account leading personnel whose children are not studying or working but leading idle lives.

KAZAKH CONFERENCE DISCUSSES ECONOMIC PROGRESS

LD151158 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] A conference was held today at the Kazakhstan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Taking part in the this were chairmen of oblispolkoms, senior officials of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, the republic Council of Ministers, and the gorispolkom and rayispolkoms of Alma-Ata.

The conference discussed issues connected with restructuring the style and methods of the work of the organs of state power, in the course of implementing the resolutions of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers on measures for further enhancing the role and strengthening the sense of responsibility of soviets of people's deputies for the acceleration of social and eocnomic development in the light of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress. Speaking at the conference were Comrade Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee; Comrade Mukashev, chairman of the Kazakhstan Presidium SSR Supreme Soviet; Comrade Narabayev, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the republic and other comrades. It was noted that the organs of people's power, whose membership includes the best representatives of the working class, the peasantry and the intelligentsia of the republic, are capable of exerting considerably greater influence on the state of affairs in the economy and in the social and cultural areas. However, as yet from all soviets of people's deputies are making full use of their enhanced rights. Bound by obsolete dogmas and concepts, they do not always exercise their authority in an efficient manner, and strive with insufficient vigor for an integral solution to social and economic questions in the territories under their jurisdiction. Important problems frequently fall outside the field of vision of soviets, primarily concerning satisfying needs for housing and food, expanding the subsidiary farms of enterprises, organizations and public catering establishments, everyday services, health facilities and public education. Little attention is devoted to improving cultural-didactic and educative work, especially with young people, in the struggle with nonlabor income, drunkenness and alcoholism. Bureaucracy, red tape and irresponsibility have not been eliminated in the apparatus of the executive committees of soviets of people's deputies. Certain soviets replace vibrant, creative work with pointless meetings, and delcarations of truisms. There occur violatons of Soviet legality, abuses of office and favoritism. In order to remove these and other shortcomings, it was noted at the conference, it is necessary resolutely to abandon former criteria of evaluating one's activities, the effectiveness of which should be judged by the final results of the work of labor collectives, and by the level of the growth in the well-being, and satisfaction of the material, spiritual and cultural needs of the working people.

EFFORTS TO IMPROVE ALMA-ATA FOOD SUPPLY NOTED

LD142026 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1530 GMT on 13 January, in its Vremya Newscast, carries a program examining the implementation of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee decision to improve the supply of foodstuffs in Alma-Ata.

The correspondent begins by saying: "The practical implementation of this program is already, as they say, on the shop shelves.

"Last year the republic successfully fulfilled the state plan for sales of grain, meat, and milk, and now there is a possibility of increasing the stocks of supplies. The trade has begun to obtain more meat, sausage meat, and diary products. We went to many shops in Alma-Ata and it was nice to see that the lines are a bit shorter and there has been a noticeable increase in goods."

The video then shows the exterior of a fish store, followed by shots of the interior, showing an overview of fairly well stocked shelves, customers lining up to check out, and customers buying meat, milk, and poultry. The correspondent interviews a customer who says: "There are dairy products here -- all sorts and all types I like this shop." The correspondent continues: "I like this shop. How we would like to hear these words everywhere. But, unfortunately, this has not yet happened. It is not because there is a great shortage of meat and dairy products. The cause lies elsewhere."

The video cuts to dairy packing works -- outside vans wait to be loaded while interior shots show bottling. The correspondent they says: "Here at the milk combine vans are standing idle waiting to be loaded. There is not enough packing material, the milk now reaches the shops later than scheduled, and the range of products cannot be kept up." The video than cuts to large grocery store where the correspondent continue: "The largest self-service store in Alma-Ata, in the "Orbita" microrayon." He then turns to a customer sand says: "Are you satisfied with the range of goods available here?" The customer replies: "You know, the range is generally pretty poor. There are preserves in abundance, but what we need is milk, milk products, and, of course, meats are desirable. I also would like there to be butter.

The video shows scenes in the ship then cuts to street interview with A.M. Mukashov, identified by caption as deputy chairman of the Alma-Ata City Executive Committee. The correspondent says: "It is bad practice when the majority of products go to the central shops and less attention is paid to the shops in the microrayon suburbs. A radical change is needed. Restructuring is for all, and there is something well-founded here for the Alma-Ata shop workers to work on. How can one explain that the irregular supply of foodstuffs to the Alma-Ata shops and why they do not always get stocks of meat and milk?"

Mukashov reponds: "Well, first and foremost, it is the workers in trade that are the culprits for all these shortcomings, of course. It is their, to be blunt, inability to work efficiently with the suppliers, their inability to get down to the specifics of trade that are leading to these instances. We are now taking specific measures. We are now severely punishing all who are guilty of this. We think that our deputy posts will also be a help in this. We have formed 250 of these in our shops. Of course, without exonerating the trade workers, we do have both to improve the quality of foodstuffs and in the final analysis put an end to nonobservance of the procedure and the schedule for the supply of foodstuffs. This can be resolved. Those are our business.

KAZAKH WRITERS EXHORTED TO COMBAT NATIONALISM

PM141619 Moscow TRUD in Russian 14 Jan 87 p 3

[Article by Olzhas Suleymenov, first secretary of the Kazakh Writers' Union Board, under the "Writer's Rostrum" rubric: "Dignity"]

[Text] It is now clear that restructuring requires a new stage in social awareness to be achieved -- a creative awareness free from the stereotypes of former years and sham values.

An epoch of active innovatory creation is what restructuring primarily means. Time is tight.

At one time people did not think in terms of the precise time but used terms like "daylight hours," "hours of darkness," "day," and "midday." But today we know that a fraction of a second can have a significant effect on millions of people. We are creating equipment capable of operating within such parameters. But man himself in many respects has yet to grasp properly the brevity and significance of each minute and adapt himself to the pace of the times.

When if not now? Who if not we? -- are the demands made on everyone. Will we be able to realize the uniqueness of the time in which we live and the importance of the work which we must carry out? Activating the human factor begins for everyone with the answer to this question. As does the need to further democratize our social life.

"All of us, Comrades, must learn how to work in conditions of expanding democracy," M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has said. I agree that for many people these words were surprising. But they are a realistic assessment of the stage we have reached en route toward our set goal. Only constantly improving social relations are capable of giving the required driving force to our economy. We must learn to talk to one another at the work place (monologues by a leader who pays no heed to the collective cause appreciable harm) and must earn to defend our position, bringing it into line with the social need. While mindful of one's own worth, one must also take account of the fact that others have worth too.

Not everyone has proved up to the task of revising his views and positions; even now, through habit, we still often continue using previously "endorsed" theses, believing in their "magic power" and failing to check them out against the real processes and against life.

And how dramatically sometimes it lets us down and causes us pain -- this adherence to stereotyped phrases, hackneyed methods, and stock ways of assessing phenomena.

For many year theses about Kazakhstan being the "laboratory of friendship among the peoples," the "advance post of internationalism," and the "planet of 100 languages" have been tirelessly repeated and carried over from one speech to another.

Unforgivably, we lulled ourselves into a false sense of security, imagining that a correct thesis, if loudly proclaimed or prominently displayed, "worked" of its own accord, without requiring any extra effort at all from us. Moreover, some people, once they had formulated a thesis, considered that the goal expressed in it had already been attained, so to speak. And it seemed to us that there could be no divergence from what had been achieved.

We have now realized quite clearly that ideological work, and particularly such very important components of ideological work as class and international education, do not tolerate complacency. On the contrary, constant commitment and precise knowledge of the real state of affairs, shorn of illusion and "approximation" are required.

We came with different degrees of preparation to the academy of the friendship of the peoples, which our multinational union is rightly called. But the time set us all equally complex tasks. For a while -- why hide this -- we sometimes managed by "glancing" at what more experienced people were doing and "copying" solutions. But this cannot go on indefinitely...

The processes have come to a head. However, our ideological workers, the representatives of the social sciences, and we writers too have quite often avoided awkward themes. We have spoken about a sense of national pride, sometimes forgetting that it is impossible to inculcate modern national self-consciousness without class consciousness. Clearly we must now take part of the blame for the fact that the distinction between national dignity and vulgar, philistine nationalism has not always been clearly and precisely drawn for young people. But this vulgar, philistine nationalism has now erupted from the unknown recesses of immature consciousness. What we saw recently on the streets of our republic's capital was a bitter surprise for all of us. Groups of young people incited by nationalist elements turned into plain hooligan mobs. That is the price of failure in ideological work.

Those failures will seem all the more distressing if we view what happened from the standpoint of the facts and figures in which we all took pride shortly before this. In fact the republic has come a colossal way in an historically short time. The successes are clear to see. Including successes in the educational sphere. The Kazakhs are now almost the country's leaders in terms of VUZ graduates (calculated per thousand of the population). On ceremonial occasions we have mentioned that as a great victory. But at the same time we discreetly overlooked the fact that, of the 10,000 young Kazakhs sent during the sixties on the Komsomol's authorization to the Temirtau Metallurgical Combine, only a few hundreds were still there a couple of years later. In exactly the same way we balked at dealing with the problem of forming the collectives of major new enterprises in the republic where Kazakh workers are quite rare. These phenomena needed to be studied, notably by writers. There are examples of artistic research of this kind in our classical literature. For example, there is G. Musrepov's novel "A Land Awakened" ["Probuzhdennyy kray"], on the initial stage of the formation of the Kazakh working class in the pits and mines of Karaganda. The first Kazakh workers worked in the international collectives which, it must be said, are also typical of the very large enterprises in Alma-Ata, Karaganda, Balkhash, Dzhezkazgan, Ust-Kamenogorsk, and other cities today. Among our classics are works written about working people which were international in their range of characters.

These traditions are being maintained to a certain extent. The theme of the working man is the dominant one in the creative work of S. Sanbayev, R. Saysenbayev, and M. Sarsekeyev. Their books have been honored with AUCCTU prizes. But in general there are still few works on the working class theme published in the republic. In addition, if you analyze the range of characters in our literature you can quite easily see that it quite noticeably portrays a single nationality.

When you draw writers' attention to this fact they justify themselves by saying that they only write about things they know well. And most often what they "know well" is the village, rural life, and rural inhabitants. But here, too, the preference is for characters of the same nationality as the writer -- because it is hard, they say, for the "engineer of human souls" to understand the souls of representatives of other peoples.

What can I add to that? Each time I hear it I recall "Khadzhi Murat." It is common knowledge that L.N. Tolstoy was not a Dagestani, but I find it difficult to name another work which so vividly portrayed the Dagestanis, their culture, and their psychology. In my view there is no ethnic world or "secret national soul" which will not yield to a writer's research.

Spiritual laziness and stagnation hold some writers back, prevent them from going into the plant or workers' hostel, into the places where our people live and work. A lack of professionalism prevents a writer from seeing the people living not as an isolated ethnic group but in a harmonious family with other peoples and from studying contacts between nationalities in all their diversity.

For many years inertia and complacency have prevented us from looking critically at what has been happening in our life. The uncritical assessment of reality is that half-truth which is more dangerous than a lie. It is a half-truth often heard from rostrums and read in the pages of our books, which has been expressed to some extent in the events which our republic is now assessing most incisively.

I believe that a large proportion of those young people who took to the streets on those two days in December simply did not understand the harm that they could cause to the friendship with the great Russian people and with the other peoples of our motherland and to the fraternity which the finest sons of the Kazakh people helped to create. This means that we propagandized badly the hard-won truth that the friendship of the country's peoples is our life, which only those people lacking a true sense of national pride and dignity can assail.

This bitter lesson shows once more that there must be a determined restructuring of ideological work in the republic, genuine openness, the ability to speak and hear the truth, and true party-mindedness in the assessment of the cause and of our work. And no single writer, cultural figure, teacher, or propagandist is entitled to remain aloof from resolving these tasks.

IZVESTIYA READERS COMMENT ON KAZAKHSTAN EVENTS

PM121900 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Jan 87 Morning Edition p 3

[IZVESTIYA letters' section editor Vladimir Nadein "Reading The Mail": "Having One's Own Opinion"]

[Text] "All my team comrades with whom I have discussed the article 'Nothing But the Truth' also agree that you must not just pick the quotations you want out of readers' letters. This is ideological deception, of course," S. Kiselev writes from Gorkiy in response to the review of readers' letters published in IZVESTIYA No 3. "I mean, if you, the editorial board, have said A, then be bold enough to say B as well. Otherwise won't we have a situation where everyone is talking about something, but there is not a word about it in the papers? Don't think this is some kind of narrow interest. After all we do not live in isolation, we do not live merely as a team collective, but as a society. Therefore we have the right to know about what is happening in it and about people's attitudes to it.

"Take the events in Alma-Ata, for example. Are readers writing to the editorial board about this or not? If not, then say so: There have been no letters, people are indifferent. But I doubt it. More likely, you do not want to talk about it again. Because you are fearful and unaccustomed to it."

There certainly has been a large number of readers' reactions to the events which followed the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee plenum at which D.A. Kunayev, who had led the republic for 2 decades, retired and G.V. Kolbin was elected Central Committee first secretary. Is it frightening to talk about this? I think that in view of the fact that the country was informed immediately, literally the next day, about the outrages committed by people who were unhappy with the plenum decisions, this question sounds somewhat naive. But about our being unaccustomed to discussing the problems of mutual relations between nations publicly, and in a critical rather than enthusiastic tone, I think the reader is right.

In order to avoid returning to this again and again, I will say right away: Literally every letter provides convincing evidence of the pure, sincere friendship of the peoples of our country, the like of which mankind has simply never experienced before. For older people there are the personal experiences of the tribulations of war, when the Kazakhs (remember how many there were among Panfilov's men!) displayed miraculous valor and heroism. For younger people it is personal friendships, family ties, joint work...

But all this is tinged with bitterness... "I am from Alma-Ata, I am 27, a Komsomol member since 1976, a Kazakh, married with two children, trained as a teacher," Gabdulakhat Galimzhanovich Karimov writes. "First of all I want to express the anger and indignation I feel toward some of my compatriots who provoked, organized, and participated in the hooligan actions. And I am sure that my opinion is shared by most honest people. At the same time, this outburst prompts a number of thoughts. Some people, unfortunately, think that the disturbances were caused by the election of Comrade Kolbin as Central Committee first secretary, and not a Kazakh national [natskadr]. I am not competent to deal with this question. But I am sure, and again this is most regrettable, that at the moment there is no one to choose in Kazakhstan when it comes to appointing the right person to such an important post. And Comrade Kolbin is going to find it very difficult to smash the established negative trends in our republic. It will have to be a joint struggle."

The different approaches to these events in letters from readers inside and outside Kazakhstan are very characteristic. The letters from those who are remote from the republic's realities are full of bewilderment. "What has happened? Why was disapproval of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee's decisions among young people manifested in such a form? And why was the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee unable to find a first secretary in its own membership, it being necessary to bring one from Ulyanovsk? Please explain this through the press! M. Reym. Odessa." "We want to know how this could have happened? Without a consistent account it is also simply incomprehensible, Levin and Popov, Troitsk. Moscow Oblast."

And here is a letter from A. Kuratova in Alma-Ata: "G.V. Kolbin has come to us as first secretary. We are all highly delighted. We are very enthusiastic about it, because under the previous leadership it was all bribes, inflated figures, and you scratch my back and I'll scratch yours. That is why we took heart when we learned that Kunayev had been released. On 17 December Kazakh students staged a strike in the square, smashed everything up, and beat up totally innocent Russians. My mother has distinctive Kazakh features, so they did not touch her. But she saw them overturn a car and set fire to it. The car was consumed, along with its passengers, and my mother has been laid low by a heart attack..."

I quote the last sentence from A. Kuratova's letter not just because "you do not leave words out of a song." To all appearances, "laid low by a heart attack" is a somewhat exaggerated reflection of mother's feelings. But the author should know. "Burned passengers," however, is an obvious untruth, which can be totally refuted by documents. The impressionable reader should not be reproached for this. But it should not be forgotten that such events, particularly when there is a lack of prompt and full information, inevitably attract nightmarish "eyewitness evidence."

Readers are giving what they believe to be the causes of the vandalism and hooliganism. One of the most prominent among them is formalism, a dogmatism detached from real life, instead of an active internationalist policy -- in the area of educational work, in education, in the allocation of benefits, and in the selection and placement of cadres. [paragraph continues]

"In some republics, even now, when employing personnel, taking on staff at educational establishments, when promoting working people to leading posts, and so forth people are often guided not by the actual abilities of equal citizens, but by their nationality. As a result of this harmful practice people form cliques, a phenomenon I have observed more than once in Kazakhstan: Purely Kazakh organizations in which most people, particularly on the administrative side, are Kazakhs. On the other hand, there are organizations with a Russian bias, in which most of the staff are Russians, Armenians, and so forth," is the opinion of Ye.K. Shibayev from Krasnodar, who concludes that this practice could lead to the "unofficial division of nations."

Readers are alarmed by this danger. "The echo of events in Alma-Ata must not affect our 250-year friendship," V. Bekbolsynov writes from Kokchetav. "I have this constant sense of irreplaceable loss. Grief for the working people of the republic and oblast. Where did the young nationalists spring from -- mere striplings, after all? Where were our ideological workers?"

Practically every letter raises the question of the liability of leaders of local party, Soviet, and Komsomol organizations. VUZ's and technical colleges. A full and objective investigation is insisted on by L. Petrenko, writing from Alma-Ata, R. Nuridzhyan of Yerevan, and V. Gvozdelskaya of Kapchagay, Alma-Ata Oblast, who claims, in particular: "Young people were not the instigators. Not just young people, at any rate. What steps are legal bodies going to take against the instigators? This cannot go unpunished."

My review would certainly not be complete if I did not indicate the extreme stances. The author of one (only one, though) long letter, whose name I am not giving for obvious reasons, took advantage of the events to demand special privileges for the "Slav peoples in all republics." The author of another letter, from Alma-Ata, signed off as follows: "A Russian woman." The gist of her letter to the editorial board was that one ought to be as gentle and as lenient as possible with the people who participated in the events and who, although they "used force as they burst onto the square," are nevertheless "young and do not always realize what they are doing."

Of course, a review of readers' reactions does not claim to be a detailed analysis, which is yet to come.

The past week's mailbag contains the first signs of nonreceipt of our newspaper. There are reports from various places (Dnepropetrovsk Oblast, A.M. Zhigacheva, Leningrad, G.M. Makorda, and others) of issues of IZVESTIYA failing to arrive. The excuses given to subscribers are worrying: "We did not receive our full quotas of IZVESTIYA so you did not get one." Of course, it is not always deliberate, as has been the case in a number of places, when issues containing criticism of local products, have not been delivered. Sometimes it is simply carelessness. Nevertheless, readers must be aware that the IZVESTIYA publishing house is meticulous in carrying out its commitments to "Soyuzpechat." There are problems with paper, but they only affect retail sales.

In conclusion, I want to put to readers a question sent to the editorial board by "labor and Armed Forces veteran" L.G. Paykin. He writes: "The Kherson cardan shaft plant 'Trudovik' gardening enthusiasts' society collective has been in existence since 1958. All the plots are in good condition and provide excellent produce. The chairman, comrade A.F. Krupin, personally participates in all the activities, ensures collective watering and upkeep and repair of the wharf (there follows a list of the chairman's other jobs -- V. Nadein).

"A general meeting unanimously decided to pay the chairman R50 (fifty) a month in the form of a material incentive, in view of the large amount of spare time he had given up. The question is: Should this payment to the chairman be regarded as unearned income?"

To tell the truth, I have no ready answer. I would be grateful to readers if they would help me to get out of this awkward situation.

UKRAINIAN MINISTERS REPRIMANDED FOR SHORTCOMINGS

AU151256 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 11 Jan 87 p 3

[Unattributed report: "In the Ukrainian Council of Ministers"]

[Text] The Ukrainian Council of Ministers Presidium has examined the delays in complying with the party and government decision on increasing the salaries of health service and social security workers.

It has been noted that, in implementing the 16 October 1986 decision of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, and the AUCCTU on increasing salaries for health service and social security workers, the Ukrainian Ministries of Health and of Social Security displayed indiscipline. The decision called for a salary increase for individual categories of health service and social security workers effective November 1986. Instead of working efficiently and concretely to find the necessary additional funds, the Ukrainian Ministries of Health and of Social Security incurred red tape and sluggishness, and as a result of this the salary increase for this category of workers was only made effective 25 November 1986.

Comrades A.Ye. Romanenko and A.M. Lukyanenko, ministers, personally in essence dodged control over the work performed to introduce the new salaries in the system of the Ukrainian Ministries of Health and of Social Security, and evidently underestimated the importance of this measures intended to raise the efficiency and quality of medical services and to improve social security for the population.

Comrade A.M. Kasyanenko, Ukrainian deputy minister of health; and Comrade Yu.N. Sivovolov, Ukrainian first deputy minister of social security, directly responsible for this sector of work; have been reprimanded for their irresponsible attitude toward the implementation of the decision adopted by the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, and the AUCCTU on introducing new salary conditions for health service and social security workers.

The attention of Comrades A.Ye. Romanenko and A.M. Lukyanenko, ministers; Comrade V.P. Kozeruk, Ukrainian minister of finance; Comrade V.P. Fokin, Ukrainian Gosplan first deputy chairman; and Comrade N.A. Panteleyev, chairman of the Ukrainian State Committee for Labor, has been called to the lack of adequate control over the organization of implementing the aforesaid decision in the republic.

Notice has been taken of the reports made by the Ukrainian Ministries of Health and of Social Security that the salaries of health service workers had been reassessed all over the republic from 1 November 1986, and had been paid out in the established order.

The Ukrainian Council of Ministers has obligated the Ukrainian Ministries of Health and of Social Security alone with the Ukrainian Ministry of Fiance and the Ukrainian State Committee for Labor on 1 November each year, from 1987-91, to further introduce new salary conditions for individual categories of health service and social security workers.

The Ukrainian Council of Ministers has ordered Ukrainian ministers, as well as leaders of departments, oblispolkoms, and gorispolkoms to draw from this fact, inadmissible under our society's present conditions of life, the most earnest conclusions and to take steps to resolutely foster state discipline and to tighten control over the compliance with party and government decisions.

UKRAINE LAW INFRINGEMENTS FOR PROFIT EXAMINED

AU091028 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 3 Jan 87 p 3

[Unattributed report: "In the Ukrainian Council of Ministers"]

[Excerpts] The Struggle Against Unearned Incomes Is an Important Task [subhead]

The Ukrainian Council of Ministers Presidium has examined a report submitted by Comrade A.S. Myakota, Poltava Oblispolkom chairman, on the work performed by the oblispolkom to intensify the struggle against unearned incomes, and to increase the responsibility of leaders of enterprises, institutions, and organizations for enhancing order and discipline, and for ensuring the safety of socialist property.

It has been noted that the oblispolkom did not carry out adequate organizational work in compliance with party and government decisions concerning the aforesaid issues, did not restructure its activity in light of the requirements of the 27th CPSU and Ukrainian Communist Party Congress, and showed formalism in implementing the measures provided for. The oblast authorities have failed to check abuses and to eliminate the causes of and conditions for obtaining unearned incomes, as well as for other offenses. Insufficient efforts have been made to improve trade in foodstuffs, fuel, construction materials, and to expand payable transportation and consumer services.

No concrete measures have been taken to improve control, audit, accountancy, and the selection of persons for jobs with materials responsibility. There are serious shortcomings in the work of kolkhoz marketplaces; kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and cooperative consumer societies are weak in expanding their trade services at kolkhoz marketplaces; and no adequate control has been organized over the compliance with trade regulations.

The oblast's law and order and control organs are slow in restructuring their work. They frequently disregard the new requirements and the complexity of the tasks set, and as a result of this there are many infringements of the law for profit, cases of eyewash, and book doctoring. Comradely courts, voluntary people's squads, and administrative commissions under rayispolkoms and gorispolkoms are also inefficient in preventing infringements of the law.

The Ukrainian Council of Ministers has found that the work carried out by Poltava Oblispolkom to fight unearned incomes, various abuses, and other infringements of the law was unsatisfactory. The attention of Comrade A.S. Myakota, oblispolkom chairman, was called to the poor organization of implementing party and government decisions concerning these issues.

The oblispolkom has been instructed to radically restructure its activity in line with the decisions of the 27th CPSU and Ukrainian Communist Party Congresses, to significantly intensify the struggle against unearned incomes, to raise the responsibility of oblast sections and administrations, rayispolkoms and gorispolkoms, leaders of enterprises and organizations for the safety of socialist property, for enhancing order and discipline, and for eradicating various abuses.

The Ukrainian Council of Ministers has obligated the oblispolkom to significantly tighten control over compliance with party and government decisions on these issues, to draw up and implement practical measures in order to improve control, audit, accountancy, and the selection of persons for jobs with material responsibility; to expand the range of payable consumer and transport services, as well as services for selling fuel, construction and other materials to the population; and to put in proper order the registration of persons engaged in individual labor activities.

Oblispolkoms, Kiev and Sevastopol Gorispolkoms have been instructed to analyze, before 1 March 1987, the progress made in implementing the decisions on the struggle against unearned incomes, to take steps in order to increase the safety of the people's wealth, to intensify the struggle against bribery, profiteering, and other infringements of the law for profit, and to increase the responsibility of economic leaders for the state of this work in labor collectives.

The Ukrainian Ministries of Internal Affairs and of Justice have been requested to assist their subordinate organs in a practical way in Poltava Oblast in applying the valid legislation for the struggle against unearned incomes, as well as to strengthen socialist legality, law and order.

To Make Comprehensive Use of Wood and Wood Waste [subhead]

The Ukrainian Council of Ministers Presidium also examined ways to make more effective and comprehensive use of wood and wood waste at the republic's enterprises in the 12th 5-year period. [passage omitted]

OFFICIALS DISCUSS IMPROVING LABOR CONDITIONS

AU071457 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 28 Dec 86 p 1

[RATAU report: "Improving Labor Conditions and Safety by All Means"]

[Text] The pace of our country's economic and social development and of implementing the policy aimed by the party at acceleration is being largely determined by the level of discipline, organization, and order in all sectors and at all levels. Under the conditions of the rapid progress of science and technology and of utilizing inreasingly complex technical means in various national economic branches, safety in production has become a point of paramount importance.

The particular political, social, and economic significance of this problem was emphasized at a meeting of the leading party and economic cadre aktivists of the republic, Kiev city and Kiev oblast, held on 26 December. A report was made by B.V. Kachura, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and secretary.

Those participating in the discussion on the report were: V.A. Sologub, Ukrainian Trade Unions Council Chairman; V.G. Malomuzh, Kiev Obkom second secretary; V.F. Sklyarov, Ukrainian minister of power and electrification; P.P. Volkov, Ukrainain minister of motor transport; V.L. Filonenko, deputy chairman of the Ukrainian State Agro-Industrial Committee; L.L. Nikoforov, general director of the S.P. Koreolev production association; A.F. Siletskiy, chief of the main Kiev city construction administration; N.G. Chernyak, administration chief in the Ukrainian Ministry of Housing and Municipal Services; Yu.V. Krasotkin, general director of the 25th CPSU Congress tire, rubber, and asbestos goods plant in Belaya Tserkov; and Yu.A. Yefimov, chief of the Kiev section of the Southwestern Railroad.

The reporter and the speakers noted that, in line with party and government decisions, large steps have been taken in the republic's national economy to improve labor protection and safety techniques. In the 11th 5-year period alone, R6.6 billion were allocated for these purposes, or 33 percent more than in the preceding 5-year period. As a result of this, labor conditions were improved for millions of people, the rate of occupational diseases dropped, and the number of accidents in production shrank.

In the republic, there are quite a few associations, enterprises, and organizations which have adopted a comprehensive system to control labor protection and safety techniques and thus have fully eliminated accidents and industrial injuries. The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee has worked out measures to spread their experience everywhere.

At the same time, it was noted at the meeting, nothwithstanding some changes for the better, in a number of national economic branches no radical turn has been taken yet toward improving discipline, organization, and high safety. Leaders of some ministries, departments, associations, enterprises, projects, kolkhozes, and sovkhozes have not seen to it that party and government decisions concerning labor protection and safety techniques are complied with fully and on time. No energetic steps have been taken to hasten the renewal of fixed assets, to reconstruct, to reequip, and to modernize production, to certify and to rationalize workplaces. This has affected the state of labor protection and safety techniques.

Speaking about the accident at Chernobyl AES, the collision of the Admiral Nakhimov steamship with a diesel freighter, the crash of passenger trains at Koristovka station, and road traffic accidents which occurred in the current year in some oblasts, the speakers noted that these accidents resulted from irresponsibility, indiscipline, an occasionally from criminal carelessness on the part of the individuals involved, including leading cadres. The latter have been brought to account and severly punished.

The meeting critically analyzed the situation in the basic national economic branches. It was emphasized that problems concerning safety in production had been neglected in these branches for a long time and had been regarded as minor problems. Notwithstanding the availability of many specialists in control of mining operations under the Ministry of the Coal Industry (Comrade N. S. Surgay), in 1986 the number of industrial injuries has increased in 50 percent of production associations, and losses incurred in working time because of accidents and sick leave have remained high. The Ukrainaian State Committee for Supervision of Safe Working Practices and for Mine Supervision (Comrade V.I. Dekhtyarev) has been insufficiently effective in its control over these matters. At ferrous metallurgical enterprises under Comrade D.P. Galkin the situation has by no means been better. The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Commitee has instructed the Central Committee's depatments along with the Affairs Adminstration of the Ukrainian Council of Ministers and the Ukrainian Trade Unions Council to examine the work performed by these branches to prevent accidents and injuries in production and to reduce the rates of occupational diseases. Leaders of the Ukrainian Ministry of Power and Electrification (Comrade V.F. Sklyarov) were submitted to sharp criticism. In this branch, serious accidents have continued to occur, and norms and regulations for equipment use have been violated.

Also, the leaders of the Ukrainian State Agro-Industrial Committee have been slow in restructuring their work to create safe working conditions. Comrade A.N. Tkachenko, the minister bearing responsibility for these matters, as put up with many infringements of regulations and labor protection requirements. No due improvements have been made in safety practices at the enterprises run by the republic's Ministry of Grain Products (Comrad I.I. Shmatolyan). [paragraph continues]

Examination shows that in the agro-industrial complex too, the main causes of industrial injuries lay in the gross infringements of labor and production discipline, in the poor qualification and incompetence of specialists, and in the insufficiently strict selection of cadres. This calls for appropriate conclusions and for more resolute steps on the part of all leaders of the State Agro-Industrial Committee, of party committees and administrative organs.

Equally serious complaints were also lodged about the Ukrainian construction ministries and the Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry. They must significantly raise the level of organizational and production efficiency, must see to it that planed solutions, norms and regulations are strictly observed in the process of construction, and must increase the responsibility of cadres for the state of labor protection and safety techniques.

Attention was called to the need to reinforce branch services for labor protection and safety technique, as well as state supervision organs, with highly qualified specialists. Precisely they should ensure efficient control and a decisive turn in the entire work performed to create sound and safe working conditions in production. Also the Ukrainian State Committee for Supervision of Safe Working Conditions and for Mine Supervision, as well as the Southwestern District Administration of the USSR State Committee for Safety in the Atomic Power Industry must improve the efficiency of control.

The meeting noted that many ministries, departments, and executive committees of the soviets of people's deputies underestimated the importance of well-timed fire prevention measures, and were not exacting enough with regard to those who did not care about protecting the people's wealth against fire. This particularly applies to the republic's Ministry of the Light Industry (Comrade O.Ya. Kasyanenko). Material losses caused at its enterprises were particularly heavy. In a number of other branches, things have been bad, too.

No exhaustive measures have been taken to prevent accidents by the leaders of the Ukrainian Ministry of Motor Transport (Comrade P.P. Volkov), of the Southwestern and the Dnepr railroads (Comrades B.S. Oleynik and A.A. Alimov), of the Ukrainian Main Administration for the River Fleet (Comrade N.A. Slavov), and the Ukrainian Administration for Civil Aviation (Comrade A.M. Goryashko).

One of the most important tasks today is to see to it that regulations for utilizing transport means are strictly observed, and that modern automatic devices are more rapidly applied to ensure transport safety. It is particularly important to intensify individual work among people, above all within locomotive brigades, among motor vehicle and city transport drivers, among plane and ship crews. Ministries, departments, and party committees must thoroughly and self-critically examine the situation at each transport enterprise, and must take additional measures to promote due order and organization, and to ensure safety in the work.

The reporter and the speakers pointed out the need to increase the responsibility of designers and technologists for the quality of designs, for providing machines, mechanisms, and equipment with microprocessors and modern diagnostic and control instruments ensuring high reliability and safety in work.

The meeting participants paid particular attention to efforts to improve the training and retraining of cadres, to resolutely raise the technical competence and professional preparation of the personel, to teach all workers and specialists safe working methods, and to recertify leading functionaries, engineers, and technicians in labor protection. The need was noted for all workers to perfectly know and to strictly observe the norms and requirements of labor protection and safety techniques, and to resolutely fight infringements which might entail an accident and industrial injuries.

The meeting was addressed by V.V. Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary. He noted that the tasks to strengthen discipline and good organization, and to increse responsibility for safety in production were discussed in a businesslike, concrete, and demanding manner. It is now up to each labor collective to carefully examine the siutation and to determine concretely what has to be done without delay, by whom, and within what time frame.

Each ministry, department, association, enterprise, and organization must from top to bottom radically invigorate the work to prevent accidents and to check industrial injuries. In this respect, no allowances whatsoever are permissible. Economic leaders are obligated to provide production with engineering and technical facilities fully ruling out states of emergency and accidents in production, and to create normal working and living conditions for people. This work must not turn into another short-lived campaign; it has to be carried out constantly and daily.

To create sound and safe working conditions at each workplace, it is essential to improve the training and retraining of cadres, to raise the quality and reliability of the equipment made, and to enhance technological discipline, order, and organization. The ways to accomplish these tasks have been outlined by the 27th party congress and specified by the decisions of the subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums. Party committees are expected to concentrate their organizational and political work on their implementation.

A great share of responsibility for the observance of safety regulations is to be borne by trade unions. Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy emphasized that the Ukrainian Trade Unions Council, republic-level committees and oblast trade union councils had to exert strict control everywhere over the measures taken to improve labor protection. Everything that has been envisaged for this purpose in collective contracts is to be implemented fully and on schedule. In this field the requirements must be very strict everywhere and in every respect.

To prevent accidents and to intensify the struggle against infringements causing industrial injuries and material losses, a great deal should and must be done by Komsomol organizations.

Efforts should be made, Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy emphasized, so that the tasks set to improve working conditions and to raise labor safety will be accomplished by each labor collective, and so that they will always be in the center of the attention of party, administrative, trade union, and Komsomol leading cadres.

In its resolution, the aktivs meeting set the task for leaders of ministries, departments, associations, enterprises, organizations, and state control organs to take for guidance the directives drawn up by the CPSU Central Committee, as well as the measures worked out in this field by the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, and to radically restructure the work performed to prevent accidents and industrial injuries, and to create sound and safe working conditions at every workplace. The Ukrainian Trade Unions Council, oblast councils, and republic-level trade union committees have been requested to establish effective control over the measures taken to improve the state of labor protection and safety techniques provided for under collective contracts and also worked out on the basis of certifying workplaces and of working conditions specified in documents.

Party committees and basic organizations have been instructed to resolutely improve organizational and political work in labor collectives in order to prevent industrial injuries and accidents, to raise the effectiveness of control over implementing party and government decisions concerning labor protection and safety in production. [paragraph continues]

The need has been emphasized to sharply and in a principled way react to the cases of indiscipline and irresponsibility on the part of leading cadres in discharging their duties, and to pursue the principled party policy in this sphere.

The party and economic aktivs meeting has called on the leading cadres of party, administrative, economic, trade union, and Komsomol organs in the republic to do their utmost to ensure that the key directives of the 27th CPSU Congress to strengthen discipline and organization, and to raise responsibility are implemented, and that conditions are created necessary for high safety in production.

LEADERS ATTEND COMMEMORATION OF SPACE PIONEER

PM160931 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Jan 87 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Components of Space Feat; Ceremonial Session in House of Unions Hall of Columns"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] A ceremonial session of representatives of Moscow's working people held in the House of Unions Hall of Columns 12 January was devoted to the 80th anniversary of the birth of S.P. Korolev, founder of practical cosmonautics and outstanding Soviet scientist and designer.

In the presidium were V.I. Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, L.N. Zaykov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Yu.D. Maslyukov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, leaders of a number of ministries and departments, prominent scientists, representatives of party, soviet, and public organizations, and pilot-cosmonauts.

A report was delivered by Academician V.A. Kotelnikov, chairman of the Interkosmos Council and vice-president of the USSR Academy of Sciences. He recalled the life of S.P. Korolev, who is known and honored throughout the world as the man who opened up space for the inhabitants of the earth. [passage omitted]

REPORTAGE OF IAEA'S BLIX VISIT TO CHERNOBYL, MOSCOW

PM161055 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Jan 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "H. Blix' Stay"]

[Text] IAEA Director General H. Blix, who is in the Soviet Union on an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government, and the persons accompanying him visited the Chernobyl AES 13 January, where they were familiarized with the work of the station's first and second reactor units, which have been recommissioned after implementing all the necessary measures to ensure safety in connection with the accident in that station's fourth reactor unit.

The guests were shown the protective structure around the station's fourth reactor unit and were provided with information about its operation.

On the same day H. Blix and those accompanying him were received by A.P. Lyashko, chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers.

Participating in the trip to the Chernobyl AES were N.F. Lukonin, USSR minister of nuclear power generation; A.M. Petrosyants, chairman of the USSR State Committee for the Utilization of Atomic Energy; and other officials.

"I first visited the region of the AES 8 months ago, when the accident situation had essentially already been brought under control," Doctor Hans Blix told a TASS correspondent. "Today I am greatly impressed not only with what I have seen but also with everything that Soviet specialists have succeeded in doing to entomb the damaged reactor, particularly to ensure the safety of people at the station, where two reactor units have gone on stream. I am impressed with the modifications and the technical solutions introduced into the working of the AES to make its operation safer."

Doctor Hans Blix pointed out that the IAEA is satisfied with the measures in Chernobyl to eliminate the consequences of the accident, as well as with the information which the Soviet Union regularly supplies to that international organization. He voiced confidence that nuclear power generation has a future.

Received by Shcherbina

LD160910 Moscow TASS in English 2029 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 15 TASS -- The diploma of honourary doctor of Moscow's Lomonosov State University was presented today to Hans Blix, director-general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), now in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet Government. This honourary title was awarded to Hans Blix for merits in the development of international cooperation in the sphere of peaceful uses of atomic energy, consolidation of peace and international security.

Sweden's ambassador to the USSR Anders Thunborg attended the ceremony of the diploma presentation.

On the same day Hans Blix was received by deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Boris Shcherbina.

Talks With Ryzhkov

LD161120 Moscow TASS in English 1105 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 16 TASS -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, today received Hans Blix, director-general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) who is staying in the USSR at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

Speaking of the significance of the Soviet Union's far-reaching initiatives early on in the talks, Nikolay Ryzhkov said their realization would not only make it possible to stop the arms race and deliver mankind from the threat of nuclear catastrophe but would also create unprecedented possibilities for using nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

Opinions were then exchanged on the issues of strengthening state-to-state cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, with nuclear non-proliferation being consistently ensured, and on ways of increasing the role of the IAEA in these matters.

The Soviet side reaffirmed readiness to continue efforts to further its program for creating an international regime for a safe development of the nuclear power industry.

It was stressed that the Soviet Union attached much significance to further developing and deepening its interaction with the IAEA, an organization called upon to ensure political, scientific and technological cooperation among different countries at a level meeting the responsibilities and requirements of the nuclear age.

Hans Blix spoke highly of the Soviet Union's initiatives and measures to deepen and develop international cooperation in ensuring nuclear safety. He said that his visit to the Chernobyl nuclear power station had enabled him to see for himself the large amount of work done by Soviet people in coping with the consequences of the accident there.

The meeting was also attended by Nikolay Lukonin, minister of the nuclear power industry of the USSR, Andranik Petrosyants, chairman of the USSR State Committee for the Use of Nuclear Energy, and Valeriy Legasov, a member of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

TAJIK UNION OF JOURNALISTS' CONGRESS REPORTED

PM141615 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Dec 86 First Edition p 2

[Own correspondent O. Latifi dispatch: "Brooking No Delay; Notes From the Seventh Congress of the Tajik Union of Journalists"]

[Text] Dushanbe -- G. Kalandarov, chairman of the Tajik Union of Journalists, delivered an exacting report and delegates critically analyzed the work of their editorial offices. Attention was focused in particular on inaccurate, tendentious, and incompetent articles and broadcasts. Some editors took the criticism and the rebukes leveled at them poorly; they pointed to casuists eager to pounce on the smallest inaccuracy in an article to brush aside clear evidence, casuists whom they had ridiculed many times. Weighty arguments were cited against the editorial office of VECHERNIY DUSHANBE in connection with its articles devoted to the Tajik Agricultural Institute. The newspaper's editor L. Nikulina and her colleagues who participated in the congress were irritated by the criticism.

A number of departments of the agricultural institute were afflicted by factionalism. Favoritism based on regional ties, nepotism, and mutual protection were all used to cover up unseemly actions and the inferiority of some scientific research. The squabbles gave rise to a flood of complaints. PRAVDA alone received more than 10 of them. Various commissions dealt with these complaints. The newspaper poured grease onto the fire by siding with one of the groups.

After a thorough investigation the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee Science and Educational Establishments Section in cooperation with the party control commission revealed the real causes of the drawn-out conflict.

Of course, no one is saying the city newspaper should have remained silent. The point is something else. The press must not provide a platform for settling mutual scores.

Unfortunately, these are not isolated facts and were therefore discussed at their congress with alarm and concern.

By virtue of its specific features, the Union of Journalists is very closely involved with party committees. The press organs reflect like a mirror the party committees' activities, stances, and approaches to day-to-day and longer-term issues. Newspapers, television, and radio broadcasts in many respects provide the feedback without which it is not possible to feel the pulse of the times. Hence the growing attention to journalists' work and their living and leisure conditions. The Bureau and First Secretary of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee K. Makhkamov who took part in the congress and delivered a speech are setting an example in this respect. During the congress the delegates' proposal to institute the title of "Meritorius Journalist of the Tajik SSR" was discussed.

This year alone the Central Committee Bureau promptly backed four republic newspaper articles and drew organizational conclusions from them. Thus the first secretary of the Voseyskiy party raykom was relieved of his post. However, obkoms and certain party gorkoms and raykoms still adhere to the old methods in managing their press organs. Not all have overcome the habit of ignoring the role and importance of the press. As an example the failure of the Dzhilikulskiy raykom to react to threats to make short shrift of the editor of its press organ was cited from the congress rostrum. It was noted the raykom confined itself to a formal reply to the article in the oblast newspaper on this subject.

Such facts must, of course, be discussed and evaluated. But it is no less important for the Union of Journalists and party committees to help rayon newspapers to become militant propagandists and organizers. Their problems -- problems of a professional nature and problems pertaining to the strengthening of their material and technical base are not being discussed for the first time.

Much can be explained by the poor quality of the cadres working in the republic press organs. The union comprises 985 journalists. Only a few of them have higher journalistic education, especially in the editorial offices of Tajik language publications and broadcasts they are few and far between. Tajikistan is perhaps one of the few republics where no journalistic training is provided. To make matters worse, every year 8-10 people from the republic VUZ philology departments are transferred to Moscow and Leningrad university journalism departments, yet when they return the problem of finding work arises. Sometimes it takes the young specialists months to find a job. Meanwhile, the Union of Journalists is only talking.

There is no proper support from the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee Propaganda and Agitation section either. Here they confine themselves to petty tutelage of editorial officecs.

Last summer radio workers and State Automobile Inspectorate inspectors were conducting spot checks on transport facilities. Among the vehicles stopped were cars, many of whose drivers were making unearned income. The cars stopped also included a number of "Volgas" of ministry and department leaders. I heard recordings made by the journalist S. Niyazov. The conversations with all passengers were correct and polite. There was no conflict. D. Latifov, head of the Propaganda and Agitation section, reacted differently to the spot check. Bypassing the leadership of the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, telephone calls were made directly to the studio demanding that the material be removed. Material, as emerged later, which had not even been prepared. At midnight militia arrived in Niyazov's village (because of the housing shortage many journalists live in villages around Dushanbe) to take him to the city. The attempts of A. Sonin, deputy chairman of the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting to get to the bottom of this matter went unanswered. This incident left journalists with a bitter taste in their mouths.

Party leadership of the press is frequently supplanted by the collection of all kind of statistics. "Every quarter," M. Shakhobiddinov, head of a section of the newspaper TAJIKISTAN-I SOVETI told me, "the Central Committee Propaganda and Agitation section demands statistical information about critical articles from us. However, the reaction of local organs to criticism. has not changed as a result. Since the beginning of the year, 140 articles have gone unanswered."

The editorial offices, both republican and oblast and rayon have their strengths. Much valuable experience has been accumulated. The competition of allied enterprises -- the "workers' relay race" which was born on the banks of the Vakhsh and was adopted by hundreds of the country's construction sites was the work of Tajik journalists. Their contribution to the solution of the problem of the region's fast-growing labor resources is weighty. There was a time when this theme was literally ever present on the pages of newspapers, on television screens, and in radio broadcasts, and, bouncing back, was subsequently reflected in works of literature and in movies. What about the elaboration and discussion of questions pertaining to the utilization of land in the mountains and the advancement of the local economy?

The restructuring is not an easy task for journalists and it brooks no delay. It is necessary and must be tackled with the suppoort and under the leadership of party committees.

TASHKENT SEMINAR DISCUSSES WORK OF SOVIETS

PM151341 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Jan 87 Morning Edition p 2

[Om correspondent G. Dimov report: "Time and Work Style"]

[Text] Problems of improving the style and methods of activity of organs of state power in the light of the 27th CPSU Congress decisions were at the focus of attention for the participants in a seminar in Tashkent.

The seminar was addressed by I.B. Usmankhodzhayev, first secretary of the republic Communist Party Central Committee. The soviets are taking measures to restructure their work. At the same time, they are still acting timidly to realize questions within their competence and are making poor use of the powers granted them to develop the economy and the sociocultural sphere in their territories. This was mentioned in the reports of R.N. Nishanov, chairman of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and G.KH. Kadyrov, chairman of the republic Council of Ministers.

Uzbekistan's working people have treated with understanding, interest, and sincere support the measures being taken by the party to eradicate negative phenomena in the republic and carry out the cadre strengthening of its party, soviet, and economic organs, including by means of mature, skilled workers from the center and from other parts of the country, and regard them as meeting the profound interests of the republic's further development.

MINISTER PRAISES CHEMICAL INDUSTRY'S GROWTH

LD101106 Moscow TASS in English 0633 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 9 TASS -- The Soviet chemical industry ranks first in Europe and second in the world as regards the volume of its output, said Yuriy Bespalov, USSR minister of the chemical industry, addressing a press conference here today.

The achievements of the Soviet chemical industry are to be demonstrated at the international specialised exhibition "Chemistry-87" scheduled to be held in Moscow in September this year. Theoretical and applied research in the field of chemistry and chemical technology, gene engineering and biotechnology, laser equipment will be mirrored in 13 sections of the Soviet part of the exhibition, Yuriy Bespalov said.

MINE DISASTER BLAMED ON SAFETY RULE 'BREACHES'

PM141507 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Jan 87 Morning Edition p 6

[Own Correspondent N. Lisovenko article: "Emergency Situation: What Creates a Calamity" -- first three paragraphs are an IZVESTIYA introduction]

[Text] The country learned about the calamity which befell the Donetsk miners from newspaper reports that a methane gas explosion occurred at the Yasinovskaya-Glubokaya mine on 24 December and resulted in loss of life. The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers expressed profound condolences to the families and relatives of the dead, and to the enterprise collective.

In his statements on the Vremya television program, A.P. Lyashko, chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers, who visited the mine and who heads the government commission investigating the causes of the accident, offered an initial assessment of events at the mine and spoke of the measures being taken to assist the families of the seven dead miners.

Today we publish a report from our own correspondent in the Donbass, who was at the Yasinovskaya-Glubokaya mine at the time.

Makeyevka -- This mine was commissioned 25 years ago. More than 3,000 metric tons of high-quality coal were shipped daily from its sidings. It uses modern equipment and machinery, and apparatus designed to combat the treacherous methane has been installed there.

Mine methane levels at the workings are monitored by means of gas detectors, mine interferometers, and methane warning devices. In fact, the Yasinovskaya-Glubokaya mine, just like other Donbass mines, has a perfectly adequate supply of these instruments.

"Having descended to 500 meters at the normal time on that December morning," enterprise chief production engineer Anatoliy Tkachenko told us, "the first shift teams started to work. P Kondratyuk's link got down to performing the task of extracting coal from the No. 1 west bay longwall in No. 7 section, with experienced engineer I. Dmitriyev in charge of the section. Three tunnelers headed by link leader G. Chopko also started work at that precise time. They were working on a ventilation crosscut meant to improve air circulation at the new longwall." [paragraph continues]

"More than 160 meters had already been cut. This underground passage, constituting a 100-meter incision in the geological fault zone, is a dead end. This is precisely why it should have made mine inspectors (and all workers) particularly alert. It is, after all, well known that two-thirds of accidents occur in dead-end stopes, where inadequate ventilation can result in a methane explosion."

"But this crosscut was fully supplied with air. I went to the stope on three consecutive days," ventilation section foreman V. Sviridov told me, "and followed procedures in checking methane levels in the mine atmosphere and the safety instruments.... I saw a second -- a spare -- fan right next to the one that was in operation...."

In addition to the ventilation crosscut, work was progressing simultaneously on a new -- the No. 2 -- west bay longwall. The equipment being installed there was identical to that at the No. 1 longwall. The work was being done by installation workers under mine foreman V. Bakayev. V. Kizim's timbermen were getting on with their own work not too far away, while three geological prospecting expedition workers were installing a machine for drilling degasification wells right next to them, at the ventilation duct. To put it briefly, there were people working in five locations. Moreover, the distance between the workers was within a perimeter of about 3 km.

Operation reports received by mine controller A. Krutchevskiy showed that the longwall being worked had yielded 50 metric tons of coal and rock was being handled at the ventilation crosscut stope. Meanwhile, the crosscut ventilation fan stopped at 0920 and the electricity supply to the equipment located there was cut. Interruptions also occurred later, involving three breakdowns between then and 1015.

The expert commission subsequently established that voltage "dropped" through the operation of a leakage switch, which had accurately detected a damaged flexible cable feeding the rock-loading machine. A spare cable was available on the spot. But no one used it to replace the damaged one. Evidently, the shift tried to correct the fault in a rough-and-ready fashion.

People working at the crosscut did not make their way to the fresh air stream when the fan had stopped and the electrical equipment was being repaired -- which also consitutes a gross violation of safety procedures. Let us recall that all this was happening at a dead-end crosscut! It is obvious that no measurements of the methane level in the mine atmosphere were taken at the time, and this was also a violation. Nor did mine controller A. Krutchevskiy give instructions for people to be evacuated from the workings even though, according to claims by Z. Blokhina, operator of the automatic methane monitoring system, she informed him of the repeated fan breakdowns. As a matter of fact, the controller categorically rejects this claim....

...A methane explosion in a gallery or other mine workings can be likened to the explosion of a gunpowder charge in a rifle barrel. There is the same 1,000-degree temperature, the same instantaneous destructive power, and nothing to counter it at the time of disaster, except people's courage and intelligent engineering actions. Some mine rescue workers began to extinguish the fire, while other threw themselves into searching for casualties.

"That was a day of real tragedy in the history of one of the best mines in Donetsk," V. Retyunskikh, commander of Makeyevka's No. 3 mine rescue detachment, told me with bitterness. "Explosion, fire, carbon monoxide poisoning, a search for bodies... A further 10 people are being treated in Donetsk today..."

Now that experts and specialists in the coal industry and mining and mine rescue science have drawn their basic conclusions, it is possible to tell what caused the calamity.

The explosion of methane and air mixture in the dead-end stope caused a fire in the No 2 haulage gallery. The methane ignition was caused by a spark at the point where the cable joined the magnetic starter with damaged insulation, and also by the fact that it was carelessly attached.

The government commission consisting of senior officials from the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers, the Mineworkers Trade Union, the party obkom and the oblispolkom, the State Committee for Supervision of Safe Working Practices in Industry and for Mine Supervision, and the Prosecutor's Office has drawn the following conclusion based on investigation data and conlusions by specialists and scientists: The accident which resulted in loss of life was caused by "...poor standards of production and technological discipline among engineering and technical workers and mineworkers, who allowed mining work to be carried out in breach of regulations governing safety and electrical equipment insulation, with miscalibrated gas monitoring apparatus and a malfunctioning chain of control."

The commision determined that the ventilation and equipment safety service failed to property monitor the ventilation conditions at mine workings and the observance of dust and gas regulations. The necessary measures were not taken to eliminate the breaches of safety rules which were brought to light by public inspectors. In December, for example, public labor safety inspectors repeatedly noted excessive methane levels in No. 7 section at the longwall and inadequate ventilation of the crosscut. But the section leaders failed to react to this. And yet I. Dmitriyev, the very same chief of No. 7 section, was himself the mine's chief engineer not so long ago...All this appears in writing in the state commission's report.

"Yes, No. 7 section produced large quantities of coal," Vladimir Zhukov, secretary of the Makeyevka party gorkom told me. "And many people got used to thinking was sufficient to classify its work as excellent. Some people even suggested that this section should be transferred to self-monitoring as regards safety practices. Alas, the fruits of this delusion are so bitter..."

The Donetsk party obkom bureau and the Makeyevka party gorkom bureau have expelled five leaders from the party, and eight others are under investigation for allowing the fatal accident of occur. They include former section chief I. Dmitriyev, the mine's chief engineer V. Subin, and electric welder V. Tyagun, who persistently disregarded the requirement to keep the section's electrical equipment, for which he was responsible, properly insulated. But mine chief mechanic V. Shkaran, mine director I. Nazha, and G. Lisovoy, general director of the "Sovetskugol" Association, cannot consider themselves blameless, either.

For several days in the wake of the accident, the government commission received the families and relatives of miners who had suffered. Absolutely all questions concerning their housing, pension entitlements, and others have been resolved.

Makeyevka has buried the dead miners....

...Describing the tragedy, I cannot fail to recall the following facts. Safety procedures, which protect miners in the coal industry against any unexpected events, are still breached very much and very often. In actual fact, a comprehensive inspection carried out while the government commission was working at the "Sovetskugol" Association's mines revealed numerous breaches of safety rules. Additional breches were revealed even at the Yasinovskaya-Glubokaya mine, which suffered so cruelly.

No, it is not the mines as such that are dangerous, as it may appear to uninformed people. What is dangerous in mines, just as anywhere else, are sloppy workmen; what is dangerous is the hope that "things may work out" that has taken root in many of us, the carelessness that has become almost a norm of life for many people, the lack of conscientiousness and the lack of precision in observing rules which have been proved sometimes by the grimmest of workers' experiences. And all this can create calamities against which any equipment is powerless -- clear though it is that equipment must also be improved.

Oh, how difficult it is, and how slow we are, to abandon the habits of working in a slipshod manner. And the price we pay for them.... We would rather put the blame on one another, on the bosses, on objective causes, and so on, when each and everyone must make it the rule to follow procedures precisely.

The technical consequences of the accident at Yasinovskaya-Glubokaya have already been determined, studied, and largely eliminated. But have we learned all the moral lessons of this calamity? And have we firmly assimilated them?

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR 8-11 JAN REPORTED

LD120210 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 8-11 January. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

8-10 Jan -- No fileworthy items.

11 Jan -- More than 18,000 metric tons of top-quality maize seeds have been sent to 40 oblasts of the RSFSR from North Ossetian ASSR. Last autumn each hectare on farms in North Ossetian ASSR yielded more than 50 quintals of prime-quality grain. [0500]

Developments for 12-14 Jan

LD150332 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 12-14 January. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

12 Jan -- No fileworthy items monitored.

13 Jan -- Overhauling of sowing and soil tilling equipment has been completed in Alma-Ata Oblast. Around 10,000 tractors -- which is 90 percent of the total -- are ready for work. [0900] All rayon agro-industrial associations in Alma-Ata Oblast have organized, in good time, for the repair of worn-out components; spare parts banks have been set up. [1100]

14 Jan -- Leaching operations have been started up in the farms of Syrdarya Oblast of Uzbekistan. Correspondents note that in other oblasts this work is being impermissibly delayed, which can eventually lead to a decrease in the fertility of soil. [0200]

Winter is unusually warm in Tajikistan and sowing is today beginning in the southernmost Vakhsh valley. Cotton fields are being prepared for the spring sowing. [0900]

Farms in Tyumen Oblast have made ready for spring 90 percent of their sowing and tillage equipment, and about the same proportion of tractors. [1200]

Grain crop seeds for the whole spring crop area have now been laid in store in the RSFSR. Preparation of seeds is going well. More than half the seeds have provided substandard in Tyumen Oblast. Amur Oblast farms have worse supplies of soya seeds than last year. On many Siberian farms, much work needs to be done to ensure adequate quantities of potato seeds by the start of the sowing. [2230]

'COSMOS 1813' LAUNCHED, FUNCTIONING NORMALLY

LD151718 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1658 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow, 15 Jan (TASS) -- The launch of the latest artificial earth satellite "Cosmos 1813" for continuing space research has been carried out in the USSR today. It has been put into orbit with the parameters:

-- Initial period of rotation -- 90 minutes;
-- Maximum distance from the surface of the earth (in apogee) -- 387 kilometers;
-- Miinimum distance from the surface of the earth (in perigee) -- 208 kilometers;
-- Inclination of orbit -- 72.8 degrees.

The apparatus installed on the satellite is working normally.

'PROGRESS 27' CARGO SHIP LAUNCHED TO AID 'MIR'

LD161025 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1010 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] [no dateline as received] In accordance with the program of ensuring the further functioning of the "MIR" orbital scientific station, at 0906 Moscow Time today, the "Progress 27" automatic cargo vessel was launched in the USSR. The aim of the launch of the vessel is to deliver to the station expendable materials and various cargo.

"Progress 27" has been put into an orbit with the parameters: maximum distance from the surface of the earth, 280 km; minimum distance from the surface of the earth, 189 km; period of rotation, 88.9 minutes; inclination, 51.6 degrees.

According to telemetric information, the onboard systems of the automatic cargo vessel are working normally.

RESEARCH SHIP RETURNS FROM ATLANTIC VOYAGE

PM151409 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 4 Jan 87 p 1

[S. Alekseyev report: "Under the 'Cross Section' Program"]

[Text] Sevastopol -- The scientific research ship "Akademik Vernadaskiy" of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences Marine Hydrophysics Institute has returned from a routine voyage. The expedition to the western part of the tropical Atlantic under the international "Cross Section" program, which our country is conducting, was devoted to studying the ocean's influence on fluctuations in weather and climate.